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Festival hits bum note as Hop Farm stars chase unpaid bills

EXCLUSIVE by Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE full extent of those owed money following the collapse into liquidation of the company behind music extravaganza the Hop Farm Festival can this week be revealed.

As Vince Power, the legendary music promoter behind the event vows to bounce back for 2013 and rise from the ashes, Kent on Sunday has obtained the full list of creditors from last year's event.

When the company behind the festival collapsed last November it did so owing millions of pounds – including more than £163,000 to the popular Paddock Wood venue which it hires for the event – and in excess of £22,000 to Kent Police.

Remarkably, it also owed huge sums to some of the biggest performers from last summer's event – among them headliners Peter Gabriel, who is listed among the creditors as being owed £100,000, and Suede, who had £46,000 outstanding.

Other acts still chasing payment included Damien Rice, Billy Ocean, Primal Scream, Richard Ashcroft, Kool & The Gang, George Clinton and Sir Bruce Forsyth.

Mr Forsyth, the 85-year-old TV presenter, was making his first-ever festival appearance. But by the time Kent Festival Ltd went into liquidation, it still owed the Strictly Come Dancing host £9,000.

Police chiefs this week confirmed they were still awaiting payment for a total of £22,648 plus VAT.

Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes said ultimately it was the local taxpayer who picked up the tab.

"Kent Police is having to cope with a massive reduction in the Government grant it receives as cuts bite," she said.

Continued on page 2



CROWDS: Thousands flocked to annual event which vows to return again this summer

ROADS

Public inquiry date for A21

CAMPAIGNERS for the long awaited dualling of the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury were boosted this week after the Government confirmed the date of the public inquiry into the scheme.

It is hoped the multi-million pound improvements will ease daily traffic delays. **PAGE 3**

EDUCATION

Rush eases in school race

EXTRA classes introduced by a number of schools in the west of the county has dramatically eased the annual saga of children not securing their school of choice.

Parents found out on Friday which school their child had been allocated, with most getting their first choice. **PAGE 5**

CRIME

Ezekiel guilty of misconduct

THE former Conservative leader of Thanet council has been found guilty on all four charges of misconduct in public office following a trial at Maidstone Crown Court.

The jury delivered their verdicts on Friday afternoon after two days of deliberation. Full details inside. **PAGE 14**


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INSIDE

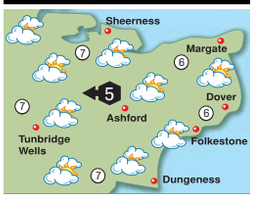


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Weather



TODAY: Cloudy, but some bright spells will develop. Light winds. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with clear spells. Frosty. Min temp -1 to 2C (30-36F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	02.00	6.6	14.24	6.3
Margate	03.04	4.7	15.24	4.5
St Mary's	08.00	5.3	20.25	5.2

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 9C	Min 0C
Tuesday	Max 13C	Min 4C
Wednesday	Max 12C	Min 5C
Thursday	Max 11C	Min 7C
Friday	Max 11C	Min 7C
Saturday	Max 9C	Min 2C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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Forsyth manager sympathetic to organisers over cash woe

Continued from front page

"This has led to the loss of nearly one in five of the workforce.

"The Chief Constable and all his staff are working hard to still deliver a great service in the face of these cuts.

"Any private organisation that holds an event on an agreed financial basis with the force and then 'fails to pay' is letting down not just the force, but all the people of Kent."

Ian Wilson, manager of Bruce Forsyth, was sympathetic to the situation. He said: "This doesn't happen very often but I'm disappointed for the nice people who ran the event. The problem is that in an event of this scale, the dividing line between success and failure is so thin. The smallest problems can mean it turns a loss rather than profit."

The full list of creditors reveals Kent Festival owed more than £4.8 million.

Other local companies owed money include more than £200,000 to Sevenoaks-based events company Entertee and £12,644 to Maidstone's Medevent Medical Service, which provided paramedic services during the event.

It is common practice that for major artists, a down payment is received to guarantee their appearance and final sum paid after the event.

Kent Festival was a subsidiary of Music Festivals plc, the publicly-traded company run by industry veteran Mr Power.

He was the promoter of the festival which had developed a niche audience, delivering legendary rock acts to tens of thousands of music fans each summer.

WHO IS OWED WHAT

As of November 16, 2012, the list of creditors for Kent Festival Ltd, as listed by liquidators Leonard Curtis, included:

- Kool & The Gang . . . £12,731
- The Levellers. £5,000
- Peter Gabriel £100,000
- Primal Scream £20,000
- Richard Ashcroft . . . £10,000
- The Stranglers £5,000
- Billy Ocean £7,000
- Bruce Forsyth £9,000
- Damien Rice. £40,000
- George Clinton £3,824

Previous acts to have performed at the festival include the likes of Prince, Morrissey, Lou Reed and The Eagles.

But Music Festivals plc went into a financial nose-dive last year.

It warned it would record a loss and blamed poor ticket sales at the Paddock Wood festival as a key factor. Its other major event, the Spanish festival Benicassim, still recorded a profit, albeit lower than the previous year.

Music Festivals' share-price plummeted and shares were eventually suspended in September. The company, which floated on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) in the summer of 2011 valued at £10m, spluttered to a halt worth just £310,000.

By the end of September, Mr Power – a legend in the music industry who made his fortune through the Mean Fiddler empire – had fired up new business All Music Live Ltd.

Then all went quiet as Music Festivals plc went into the hands of administrators and ultimately Kent Festival Ltd was dissolved.

Since then, All Music Live has acquired the rights to stage the Spanish festival and the Hop Farm event.

Benicassim has already unveiled a major line-up with the likes of The Killers and Arctic Monkeys topping the bill.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday in January, Mr Power exclusively revealed to us he intended to stage the Hop Farm Festival again in 2013.

Abroad on business this week, a spokesman for Mr Power confirmed the festival is still planned and that an announcement is 'imminent'.

But they refused to be drawn on the scale of the festival and what investors were in place to prevent any repeat of the problems of 2013.

Mr Power previously told us: "We had a difficult year last year. Kent Festival Ltd was a different entity to Music Festivals plc and so had to be dealt with separately, which has taken some time. It was always my intention to do the Hop Farm and it will take place from July 5-7.

"At the moment, we have sold a small amount of earlybird tickets. We hope to announce the bill very shortly."

No-one from the Hop Farm venue was able to respond when asked if they had received any of the £163,800 owed or agreed a new deal.

TRANSPORT

As rules to charge foreign lorries to use our roads kick in, just who collects all the money?

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PORTS are calling on the Government to set up an automatic payment system as a new policy swung into force this week which will see foreign lorries charged to use British roads.

Remarkably, at present, the Department of Transport admits it does not yet know how the money will be collected from the convoy of trucks that arrive daily in Kent. But it says the system should be fully active by April next year.

Eurotunnel is concerned the tariffs would look like it is pocketing the money.

A spokesman said: "Let's see what the Department of Transport comes up with in terms of proposals and we will then judge those on their merits."

The Kent ports favour a system like the one at the Dartford tunnel, where a payment card on the windscreen is automatically read by fixed scanners and debits the correct amount. Hauliers would then be responsible for topping up credits on the card.

The ports also do not want to pay for any of the equipment needed, if indeed the DoT do go down the route of fees being collected at ports.

The HGV Road User Levy Act paves the way for a fairer deal for UK hauliers, the government said.

Roads minister Stephen Hammond said: "Every year there are around 1.5 million trips to the UK by foreign registered lorries, but none of them pays to use our roads, leaving UK businesses and taxpayers to foot the bill. In contrast, when UK hauliers travel abroad then in most cases they have to pay to use the roads.

"This new act will help the UK logistics industry remain competitive by making sure that operators from abroad are paying towards the cost of building and maintaining the UK's roads as well as creating a level playing field for domestic operators."

The charge is welcomed by the Kent based Freight Transport Association, which looks after truckers' rights.

FTA chief James Hookham said: "The organisation has supported the idea of a charge on foreign vehicles for many years as a way of partly addressing the competitive differences between British registered operators and foreign-registered vehicles."



CASH COW: Lorries could pay on entry

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ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre bats off complaints as Blofeld blows his top over audience numbers

Exclusive by Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

BOSSES at a much-loved theatre have hit back at claims by cricket commentator Henry Blofeld that the venue "looks awful" and it failed to suitably market his recent show.

The 73-year-old, nicknamed Blowers, said he was "extremely disappointed" by his recent visit to Theatre Royal Margate for a two-man show that he stages alongside fellow Test Match Special regular Peter Baxter.

He was left fuming after just over 100 people attended the show at the venue, which has a capacity of about 450.

And he went straight on to social-networking website Twitter to voice his disappointment.

Speaking this week to KoS, Mr Blofeld said: "It was a mess. It's a lovely theatre, but it looks as though it is almost tumbling down. It desperately needs to be painted out front as it looks awful.

"The Theatre Royal is one of the great jewels in the theatre crown in England and to not do it properly seems a tremendous pity."

Alongside Mr Baxter, the duo's show consists of anecdotes and stories about their career.

Mr Blofeld – whose father attended school with James Bond-creator Ian Fleming and unwittingly saw his name used for one of the spy's greatest adversaries – added: "Peter and I played to 750 people, a full house, at the Playhouse in Nottingham and to a lot of people in Guildford just days before. So to go down there and get 100 or so was extremely disappointing.

"I have played at Margate before with my one-man show and we got a lot more people there. This time, no one knew about it. They didn't push it enough. I don't blame the staff, they were very good. It wasn't their fault, it was the system behind them."

Thanet Leisure Force, which also runs the town's Winter Gardens venue, has been in charge of the Theatre Royal since May 2012.



It admits some work still needs to be done but that the team is working tirelessly to bring about improvements.

Managing director Steve Davies said: "I've spoken to Henry since. He obviously seemed to think we're part of the reason the Theatre Royal is in the state it's in. We are the ones who have rescued it and are trying to bring things back to how they used to be. That's a slow job.

"I fully agree with him that the building looks tired outside and I am working my guts off to persuade people to put a bit more funding in."

Mr Davies was also quick to defend the promotion of Mr Blofeld's show by his team.

He said: "He was disappointed by sales, as so many artists are. Things are hard-going and we have got to build up the audience base again. They got well over 100 people, which in this day and age isn't too bad. I would have hoped and liked him to have got more than that, but it wasn't a disaster.



BOWLED OUT: Henry Blofeld and Peter Baxter drew an audience of just over 100 people to their recent show at Margate's Theatre Royal

"The last time he appeared here on his own was some six years ago and things were different then. I am afraid the Theatre Royal does not have the same theatre base it had six years ago and that is one of the challenges for us, to rebuild that audience base."

Mr Davies insists he will be talking to Mr Blofeld in the near future and added: "He is on tour at the moment and intends to give me a ring when he is back home. If Henry has any helpful pointers, then great."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sex beast locked up

A LYDD man who raped and assaulted a young girl almost two decades ago has been jailed for 14 years.

Royce Mackett, 53, formerly of The Green, denied the charges but was found guilty of rape and two offences of indecent assault, which occurred between 1994 and 1997. The victim was just nine at the time of the first offence.

Mackett has been jailed for 14 years and placed on the sex offender register.

Labour secure poll win

LABOUR swept to a comfortable by-election win in Ashford on Thursday night - with the Conservatives only just managing to hold off a challenge from Ukip to finish runners-up.

As Ukip basked in the glow of a strong showing in Eastleigh, they came within three votes of their Tory rival in the Beaver ward election for a place on Ashford Borough Council. But way out in front was Labour candidate Jill Britcher. The Lib Dems finished fifth.

Murder trial of teacher

PARENTS of a former school teacher, killed on an island in the Indian Ocean, say they will attend the trial of those accused of his murder.

Two brothers - one aged just 16 - are among four men who have been charged with the murder of ex-Royal Marine Carl Davies, 33, after he plunged 30ft down a cliff on Reunion Island in 2011.

Officials initially said the death was an accident, but tests later suggested the former Sittingbourne and Sheppey teacher had been beaten to death.

ROADS

Campaigners' joy as date for A21 public inquiry confirmed

THE date for the start of the long-awaited public inquiry into the dualling of the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury has been confirmed for May 14.

The stretch of the road regularly grinds to a standstill, causing huge congestion for commuters heading in and out of Tunbridge Wells.

It was originally given the nod by the Labour Government, but put on hold when the Coalition held its comprehensive spending review.

But the fight to get the road dualled never ceased, with campaigners, including the local council and politicians, keeping the pressure on.

Conservative MP for Tunbridge Wells, Greg Clark, was delighted at Friday's announcement.



TRAFFIC HELL: The A21

He said: "The Highways Agency has confirmed to me that the public inquiry for the A21 Tonbridge-Pembury dualling scheme is due to start on May 14.

"We have all been fighting so hard to get the A21 dualled – it has been a long, hard slog over many years. The public inquiry marks a big advance for our campaign – getting this terrible accident hot-spot sorted out once and for all is now firmly within our grasp.

"Last year, the roads minister confirmed that the A21 scheme would be one of the six 'pipeline' priority road projects which could start in 2015-16.

"I was absolutely determined to get the public inquiry under way so that the scheme would be ready to go as soon as money is available. May 14 will be a big day for drivers in west Kent."

The Highways Agency will hold a pre-inquiry meeting on March 25 at which the inspector will explain how the process will be run, how people can let it be known they want to speak at the inquiry and the procedure for submitting evidence.

The full public inquiry is expected to last two to three weeks.



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EDUCATION

Extra classes ease strain in rush to secure secondary school place

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

PRESSURE on oversubscribed grammars in west Kent has been eased by the expansion of two popular schools, pushing up the number of Year 6 pupils offered a place at their preferred school on National Offer Day.

While there has been a mixture of heartache and happiness across the county since Friday as parents found out which secondary school their child would be starting in September, fears over selective placements in an area usually hampered with disappointment, were all but non-existent.

Last year, some 90 pupils in west Kent, who had passed the Kent Test, were left without a grammar place as parents battled to get their child into oversubscribed schools.

The Skinners' School in Tunbridge Wells rejected 138 first choice applicants, according to figures from the Kent Independent Education Advice consultancy. Tonbridge Grammar, The Judd, Dartford Grammar, Dartford Girls, Weald of Kent, Tunbridge Wells Girls and Tunbridge Wells Boys also turned away large numbers.

The pressure was made worse by parents in neighbouring East Sussex and in the London boroughs – which do not have selective schooling – applying for a grammar place.

But following a request from Kent County Council, The Judd and Skinners' will each add an extra Year 7 class for September.

Peter Read, the former head teacher who runs the Kent Independent Education Advice consultancy, said that the problems seen last year had "all but gone away".

Some 12,754 children in Kent – 84 per cent of applicants – were given their first choice.

Parents were invited to pick four schools, in order of preference, last November.

Mr Read told KoS on Friday: "This is great news for the majority of Kent parents.

"This has been helped by the additional places that have taken the sting out of the grammar school issue in west Kent."

He said there would still be disappointment for some parents, where 2,390 missed out on their first choice, instead facing the start of term in September at their second, third or even fourth preference.

But Mr Read estimated that over half of these would be offered a higher choice of school through appeal or the churning process.



Mr Read explained: "Churning happens as places are freed up by appeals elsewhere and children being offered places off waiting lists. Each move creates a space at another school and so the process trickles down over the summer."

While figures showed a rise in the number of children getting their first choice on last year, for some 357 it will be none of their choices. Instead KCC, the local education authority, chose them a school.

KCC said this was usually when parents had only given one preference which was not allocated, forcing the council to choose them a placement.

Figures showed 1,760 out-of-county children applied for a place in a Kent school, with 589 successful. Of that figure, 111 were from Medway.

Cabinet member for education at KCC, Mike Whiting, said the 2013 secondary admissions round has been the most successful in recent years: "Changes to government policy, which give schools new freedoms to expand and admit above admission numbers, have created the flexibility to provide greater choice. We have been able to increase school capacity and give more children their preferred schools.

"This is not just about meeting parental demand, but is also about laying the foundations for where we want to be in future years."

He admitted, however, there was a small proportion not offered a place at their preferred schools: "They will be disappointed, and I would like to reassure them that there will be movement through reallocation and appeals that will enable more children to secure one of their preferred schools."

Medway Council's figures showed 97 per cent of primary school pupils were offered one of their preferences. Parents were invited to select up to six schools at the end of last year.

Of the 2,820 children offered places, 2,425 were given their first choice, 197 their second and 56 their third. The remaining 142 were given a lower preference school.

Medway Council's portfolio holder for children's services, Les Wicks, said: "I am pleased such a high number have been allocated a place at their first choice secondary school."

SECONDARY SCHOOL: In Kent and Medway the majority of Year 6 children have been offered their first choice of school

KENT

- Parents have until March 21 to accept or refuse their offer and submit waiting list forms by March 19
- Parents must also lodge any appeals for their named schools by April 16
- KCC will reallocate places from schools waiting lists, sending out a second round of offers on April 17
- From April 18, schools will maintain their own waiting lists and parents can contact schools direct after this date to ask to be placed on the waiting list.

Breakdown of figures	No of pupils	%
Offered first preference	**12,754**	**84.2**
Second preference	1,456	9.6
Third preference	**448**	**3**
Fourth preference	129	0.9
Local authority allocated	**357**	**2.3**

Total number of Kent pupils offered places	**15,144**
Out of county applicants	**1,760**
Out of county offers	**589**

MEDWAY

- Places must be accepted or refused and requests to go on a waiting list and appeals must be submitted by April 15
- The council re-allocates any places that have become available to those who have asked to go on the waiting lists for each school in the week commencing April 22

Breakdown of figures	**No of pupils**	**%**
Offered first preference	2,425	86
Second preference	**197**	**7**
Third preference	56	2
Lower preference	**142**	**5**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Push for investment

PAUL Carter rang the bell to start trading on the London Stock Exchange on Tuesday as part of a bid to woo big business to invest in the county.

The Kent County Council leader fronted a delegation which paid a visit to the City to officially launch the Grow For It campaign, aimed at unlocking the business potential of swathes of east Kent.

For full details, turn to the business pages inside this edition.

Pothole filling frenzy

A MAJOR blitz on the county's potholes has seen more than 2,000 fixed in the last four weeks by Kent's highways team.

And crews will be carrying out six times more work with the launch of the Find and Fix 2013 campaign this week.

An extra £1.5 million investment is also being made in the county's roads to stop potholes in their tracks.

Report a pothole on 08458 247 800.

Kelly's new TV captain

ROCHESTER's Kelly Brook has been confirmed as the new team captain on cheeky award-winning ITV2 comedy panel show Celebrity Juice.

The model, TV presenter and film star, will replace new mum Ferne Cotton as team captain on the show, presented by Keith Lemon. She joins fellow regular captain, Holly Willoughby. Filming for the new series starts soon.

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CRIME

Worry of missing child sex offenders

Victim charities concerned not enough being done to track down threat as **Marijke Cox** reports

DANGEROUS child sex offenders could be roaming the streets of our county unchecked by authorities according to new findings, which revealed they are continuing to slip off the radar.

Home Office statistics show five paedophiles from Kent are currently missing having failed to notify officers of their whereabouts.

Convicted sex offenders must register each year with police and let authorities know if they change their name or address or plan to spend time away from home.

Kent Police, which has a statutory duty to manage registered sex offenders, said any who fail to register as required are actively pursued.

A force spokeswoman said: "At any given point in time there are a number of individuals who have failed to register as required and then go missing from Kent.

"Kent Police invests significant resources in monitoring and managing registered sex offenders and uses all possible means to locate these individuals and bring them to justice.

"Sex offenders who fail to register as required are actively pursued, this includes, on occasions, obtaining international arrest warrants and extraditing individuals back to the UK to face charges.

"Kent Police also works with foreign police forces in order to manage foreign nationals who are convicted in the UK then return to their home country without notifying UK police as required."

Charities helping victims of sexual abuse have raised concerns over what they believe needs to be a priority.

Malcolm Gilbert, operations director at rape crisis centre Family Matters, which runs its support services across Kent, said society did not take the impact and prevalence of sexual violence seriously enough.

He said: "With regards to our clients, they are distressed to hear of such figures as they often believe it is their abuser who has gone missing and may be stalking them at this time.

"The fact it is not enforced properly tends to support views these crimes are not taken seriously enough.

"Our position on this is that if these people are dangerous enough for us as a society to curtail their freedoms sufficiently for them to be on a register of sex offenders and be required to notify police of their address, then it must be important enough for us to enforce it with the same seriousness.

"Given that, at any one time, there are scores of these individuals at large in our society and able, therefore, to offend with impunity, then we clearly do not take this matter seriously enough and put into it the resources that the severity of their offence requires.

"The threat they pose to our children is every bit as great as that of a terrorist and yet we do not treat the potential harm to our children with the same priority, in my view."

Head of sexual abuse programmes at NSPCC, Jon Brown, described the situation as "extremely worrying".

"Anyone who has committed a sex offence against a child must be considered an on-going risk," he said.

"We really must have a system where no-one with a record of this kind of offence can just vanish. It is a serious cause for concern."

The Home Office argued it had some of the "toughest measures in the world" to manage sex offenders.

"We're determined to do all we can to protect the public which is why, last year, we introduced new measures to strengthen and extend checks on those subject to the sex offenders' register," said a spokesman.

Figures, in response to an Freedom of Information request by a national newspaper, showed 137 missing paedophiles nationwide. Those found are subject to tough penalties, including prison.



POLICE MANHUNT FOR CONVICTED PAEDOPHILE

SIX months ago, Kent Police launched a manhunt after convicted paedophile John Archer Barnett (left) went missing from the Dover area in April 2012.

The force say the 62-year-old, also known as John Owen, is considered a risk to children and might befriend a family in order to offend.

Barnett – a registered sex offender – was convicted in 2003, for an indecent assault on an eight-year-old boy. He was jailed for four years.

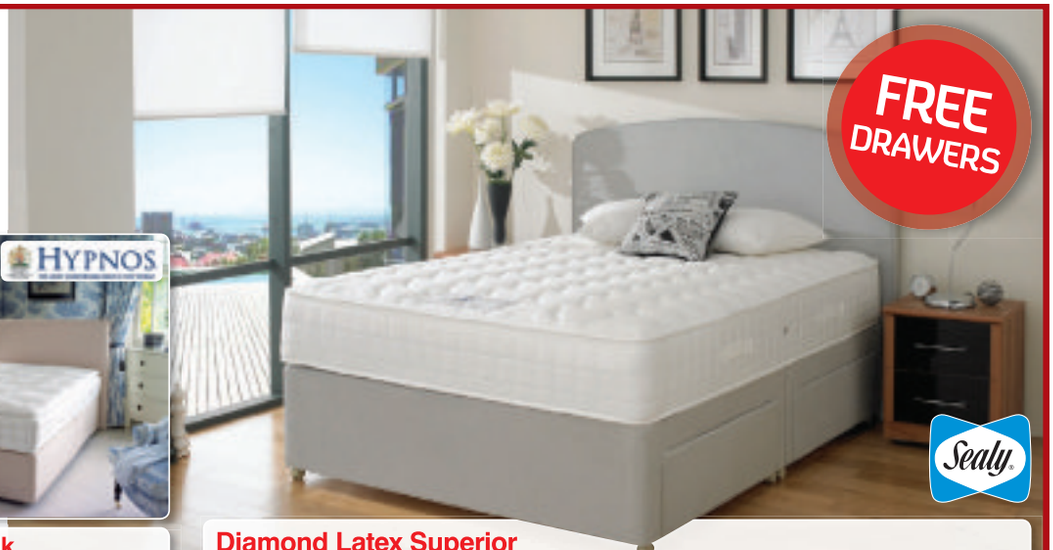
He has failed to notify police of his new address and is now wanted for breach of the notification requirements under the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

Barnett is described as a white male, about 5ft 8in tall with a 'beer belly' and has grey receding hair and a beard.

He has eagle tattoos on both arms and may be wearing a hearing aid. He also has an eczema type skin condition visible on both forearms and hands. A few years ago he suffered a stroke and one side of his face droops very slightly.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Buses get punctual

BUS services are set for an improvement after the county's five main operators signed a deal pledging to improve punctuality.

Arriva Southern Counties, Chalkwell Coach Hire, Go-Coach-Hire, Nu-Venture Coaches and Stagecoach East Kent all put their names to the Kent Bus Punctuality Improvement Partnership, which aims to maintain and improve punctuality and reliability.

It has been set up by Kent County Council.

Leader's spine problem

PETER Wood, the Conservative leader of Ashford Borough Council, has temporarily stood down from the position due to ill health.

Cllr Wood, who has been leader since 2010, recently underwent a serious operation to his spine. His deputy, Gerry Clarkson, will take over the reins until March 31 while he recovers.

Cllr Wood said: "I have full confidence in my deputy and the cabinet to oversee the running of the council in my absence."

Supermarket bag theft

A CRUEL crook swiped a 60-year-old woman's handbag as she loaded her shopping into a car at a Canterbury supermarket.

Now police are appealing for witnesses. It took place at the Morrisons car park in Wincheap at around 11.45am on February 14. The man is described as aged between 19 and 22, white, 5ft 10in and was wearing a tan coloured baseball cap, dark navy cotton jacket and dark trousers.

POLITICS

Farage uses Ukip as a personal plaything, says defecting MEP

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE only female MEP representing the UK Independence Party (Ukip) has defected to join the ranks of the Conservatives – but not before slamming party leader Nigel Farage and claiming he "did not like women".

Marta Andreasen, who is one of a number of MEPs representing the south east at the European Parliament, said Mr Farage, from Westerham, treated the party as "his plaything... regardless of the views of others".

However, Mr Farage blasted the accusations and has been supported by other female figures within the local party.

Ms Andreasen and Mr Farage have not seen eye-to-eye for some time. In 2011, after disappointing election results she called for Mr Farage to step down.

She said: "He [Farage] doesn't try to involve intelligent professional women in positions of responsibility in the party. He thinks women should be in the kitchen or in the bedroom."



CRITICISED: Nigel Farage, leader of Ukip, has been slammed by an MEP

The 58-year-old Argentinian-born accountant said resigning from Ukip to join the Conservatives was not a decision she took lightly.

But in a letter she accused Mr Farage of treating any views other than his own with contempt and offering no real leadership.

Ms Andreasen wrote: "Ukip has good people in it at grassroots who care about the future of the United Kingdom and our place in a renegotiated relationship with Europe.

"Unfortunately, their party leader treats any views other than his own with contempt.

"Ukip is his plaything to mould and shape in any way he sees fit, regardless of the views of others, myself included.

"His actions, surrounding himself with an old boys' club of like-minded sycophants, are dictatorial, in sharp contrast to those of David Cameron, who has shown he can listen, adapt and do what is right for the country, not just for personal gain."

But Mr Farage hit back at the claims of not liking women.

"If only that were true," he told KoS, "my whole life would have been so much simpler."

He added: "The week before she left the chair of South East Counties – Ukip's internal committee for its European representatives – MEPs passed a motion of censure because of her repeated behaviour over the last three years. This involved not abiding to promises she made about how she would operate.

"She has repeatedly criticised the chairman and leader of Ukip. Dissent is one thing, but this sort of behaviour is another."

Mo Elenor is chair of the Kent branch of Ukip and added her support to Mr Farage.

"The accusation that he is anti-women is risble," she said. "It just does not come into the equation. I have been involved with Ukip for some years and I don't feel I am treated any differently to the men."

Ms Andreasen has been a controversial MEP and has criticised the way the EU runs its finances.

Conservative Party chairman Grant Shapps said he was "delighted" to welcome her to his party.

He added: "She brings a wealth of experience – and a dedication to fight for what's best for the British people in Europe."



CONSERVATION

Europe bans 'scandal' of dead fish discards being dumped back in the sea

FISHERMEN have broadly welcomed a decision by EU fisheries ministers to ban fish discards – despite protests from France, Spain and Portugal to reverse the decision.

Those farming the seas around the county have long complained about discards, which sees dead fish caught above and beyond fixed quotas being thrown back into the sea. Remarkably, this accounts for around a quarter of all catches.

Fisheries minister Richard Benyon described the practice as "a scandal" and said this was "an historical moment in reforming the broken common fisheries policy".

Europe is the only region in the world to have such a policy. It was introduced in a bid to prevent over-fishing of certain fish stocks and areas.

But with many dead or dying fish hurled back into the sea because they are below minimum landing sizes, it has been widely criticised, with opponents including the likes of TV chef Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall.



CAMPAIGN: Celebrity chef Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall

After an all night meeting last week, the discard ban will now be phased in over the next few years, despite opposition. It follows a vote in the European parliament last month which was overwhelmingly in favour of scrapping discards.

The agreement will see the discarding of edible fish banned for stocks including herring and whiting from January 2014. A ban for white fish stocks was also agreed, to begin in January 2016.

Will Wright, from the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee in Thanet, said: "The devil will be in the detail but this is a step in the right direction. Anything that addresses discards is welcome. Finding regulations that cover them all will be tricky.

"We need to understand the implications of this decision and how it will practically affect our fishermen."

Tom Brown is secretary of the Thanet Fishermans' Association. He said that in theory no discards is good news, but in practice smaller boats may run in to a problem if their small quotas are used up catching fish that are not needed.

He added: "We are worried some may end up in court. It's early days, but we can hope."

Spain, France and Portugal were concerned about fishermen working in certain areas where landing unwanted fish would be too expensive. It won some restricted exemptions to let crews discard nine per cent of catches, falling to seven per cent at a later date. Northern EU countries, including the UK, say this is still too high and may be debated at a later date.



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FUNDING

Boost for county's football clubs as FA pledge £150m to improve grassroots game

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

GRASSROOTS football clubs across the county have been handed a boost after news the Football Association (FA) will be investing another £150 million into improving playing fields and facilities.

The new strategy aims to improve 3,000 pitches across England as well as building 150 artificial pitches and developing all-weather surfaces.



And while Kent waits to see what its share of the money will be, news of the cash injection has been welcomed by the county's football chiefs.

Darryl Haden, the county development manager for the Kent County Football Association, said: "We've been working with the Football Foundation and the FA to improve existing grass fields, build new grass and artificial pitches, and working closely with local authorities to protect football sites from housing and other commercial development.

"It is imperative we continue to support clubs, leagues, schools and community organisations to provide opportunities for all Kent communities to have access to a quality, safe and enjoyable football experience."

There will also be cash available to refurbish run-down changing rooms and toilets at public football pitches.

Football remains the most popular sport in the county and the Kent FA heads up around 4,500 teams, with more than 45,000 players competing each week. A nationwide survey of amateur players revealed that 84 per cent citied 'poor facilities' as the most pressing issue.

The three-year plan will be delivered by the FA in consultation with partners the Premier League, Sport England and the Football Foundation.

Since 2000, Kent FA has attracted more than £24m of investment for grassroots facility projects, with £11.5m through the Football Foundation.

To secure new funding, local clubs and authorities will work with the Kent FA in putting together an application that is then submitted to the Football Foundation.

■ **Anyone interested in securing investment to develop their facilities should contact the Kent FA at www.kentfa.com.**

ENTERTAINMENT

Eighties sensation set for seaside sell-out

LEGENDARY singer Alison Moyet will be performing in Folkestone later this year.

The star, who has sold more than 20 million albums, including the multi-award winning Alf, enjoyed huge success in the eighties as part of Yazoo and then as a solo act.

Hits included the likes of Love Resurrection, All Cried Out and Weak in the Presence of Beauty.

She even performed during 1985 charity extravaganza Live Aid at Wembley Stadium, duetting with Paul Young.

The singer performs at the Leas Cliff Hall on October 17.

ROADS

Gridlock as M20 crash causes knock-on effect

ROADS across the county found themselves under pressure on Tuesday after a crash on the M20 motorway forced it to shut, pushing rush-hour motorists onto alternative routes.

The accident caused very slow traffic London-bound between junction three, the M26, and the M25 Swanley interchange, with the M2 in particular coming under huge strain.

Traffic between Sittingbourne and Strood was reduced to a crawl, while movement in and around Maidstone became gridlocked as news spread of the problems.

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ROADS

Controversial scheme drives into heart of royal spa town

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk



TOP Gear motormouth Jeremy Clarkson derided the concept as a death-trap waiting to happen. But the attraction of shared space shows no sign of slowing, as it parks once again on the agenda of one of the county's most historic towns.

In a nutshell, shared space blurs the barriers between motorists and pedestrians. Paths and kerbs are removed, and pedestrians share equal priority with drivers, who are expected to give way.

When it works, it can open up areas previously throttled by traffic.

In 2008, Ashford town centre became the first area in Kent to introduce the scheme – rolling it out across a swathe of the town's infamous ring road – the collar which circles the town.

Hugely controversial at the time amid fears over pedestrian safety – and securing a rant from TV's Jeremy Clarkson – it has ultimately proved a huge success with accident figures dramatically reduced. It has also allowed a part of the town to open up, having previously been restricted by the four-lane road.

Only the economy has slowed the scheme's real potential. Town chiefs intend to develop the far side of the former ring road to boast restaurants and cafes – a plan only feasible by breaking down the previous barriers between pedestrians and motorists.

And now Tunbridge Wells has once again put the issue on the agenda, as it considers introducing shared space in the heart of the town.

Although only at the discussion stage, it is thought the scheme could roll out from the railway station at the bottom of Mount Pleasant Road, and up through the town to dovetail with the main pedestrianised town centre.

Those proposing it say it would solve the issue of linking the bottom and upper halves of the town, while also creating a more metropolitan hub to the ever popular destination.

The borough council had previously looked at bringing in shared space in 2009, but nothing came of it. Now the council's sustainability chief, Paul Barrington-King, is looking to flag up the idea once more. He said: "The shared space concept would enhance what is already a vibrant place. At the moment the idea is at a very early stage.

"What we will be doing is liaising with the various representative bodies in the town to make sure that if we go ahead with shared space we get it right so that it works for everyone."

The Tunbridge Wells Town Forum, a partnership between residents and councillors, are positive about the idea.

Katharina Mahler-Bech from the forum said: "Back in 2009 the shared space idea was more than welcome but nothing has moved on. A lot of people were hesitating because they were confused as to whether it was pedestrianisation where no cars can go through it. But it caters for both.

"Ashford was the only place to have it here but there are others in Kensington and Oxford Circus in London.

"It works there and there are more people. The car is even second to pedestrians there now. The safety aspect is all to do with the attitude of drivers. The majority of the town forum are behind it."

Certainly concerns over the safety aspect have long since been dispelled by Ashford's hands-on experience.

In 2011, Kent County Council, which has responsibility for highways, released figures showing there had been a 41 per cent reduction in accidents in the area covered by the shared space than in previous years.

According to KCC, between January 2004 and December 2006 there were 61 collisions involving injuries. This figure dropped to 36 between December 2008 and November 2011.

Ashford Borough Council also released a report last year claiming that despite the concerns over pedestrian safety, the shared space strategy had an overall positive impact on the area.

The report said: "Considerable research and scrutiny has not shown that any particular pedestrian groups are avoiding the shared space, and its performance appears to match that of lower speed environments.

"The overall acceptance of the concept may take more time, but after three years Ashford can reasonably be described as 'living with shared space'."

■ **Is shared space the way forward? Share your views. Write to: The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, TN25 6SS. Or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.**



PIONEERING: Ashford town centre (left) has operated a shared space scheme for a number of years and defied critics such as Jeremy Clarkson (see box right). But could the scheme work for Tunbridge Wells (pictured above)?

CLARKSON RANT

Jeremy Clarkson was initially fiercely critical of Ashford's shared space scheme.

Writing in his column in the Sun newspaper, the TV presenter said the scheme was "piffle" and claimed it was only a matter of time before someone got killed.

He said: "They've made the ring road narrower to create this shared space. A place where cars and pedestrians all get on in perfect harmony.

"In the same way that the keepers at London Zoo could put all the animals in the same cage and sit back hoping the baby Jesus will stop the lions from eating the goats. Someone is going to be killed, you idiots."

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ENERGY

Kingsnorth finally powers down

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

AFTER 40 years of providing power and employment, the doors will finally close for the final time on one of the county's best-known power stations this month.

Last year, owners E.ON confirmed the coal-powered Kingsnorth Power Station, near Hoo, would cease production in 2013. Some 100 staff are still employed there.

Its chimney has been a landmark across Medway since it opened in 1973 after a 10-year project to build the dual coal and oil-powered generators. It would later move purely to coal.

Its end was signalled with the introduction of new green EU rules on the type of power station allowed to operate in the UK, and it was decided to close Kingsnorth two years before the deadline for decommissioning.

At one point, it was hoped a new breed of station would rise from the ashes. But plans for a carbon capture and storage plant, which would have been the first in Britain, were scrapped.

Norman Armstrong, a former fitter at Kingsnorth, is sad to see it go.

At his home in Chatham, the 79-year-old said: "It was a great place to work. It's such a shame it has to close.

"It was once at the cutting edge for power generation and it was a pleasure to be one of the team running those turbines, keeping them going. It was a non-stop job, but I suppose it all has to come to an end some time."

It has not always been smooth running for the operators, however.

In 2008, a Camp for Climate Action was set up outside the plant, opposing plans for a new coal-fired station, which would have been the first in 30 years. Protestors even managed to climb its iconic chimney and 100 people were arrested.

Of the 100-odd staff left working on the site, a spokesman for E.ON explained: "Towards the end of commercial operations a number of people took different options.

"We've now moved into the decommissioning phase and the decommissioning team are still active on site. As soon as we have plans for the next stages, we'll let the community know."

Frank Macklin, GMB's southern region organiser, said: "Most of the workers have moved on, but we are worried about the effect that will have on the local economy and community.

"We also have Dungeness closing down – government energy policies are not being helpful to the people of Kent. The union would like to see a major nuclear plant in Kent to replace these closures. Those who work in this industry have a special skill set and we don't want to see that wasted."

Chief executive of E.ON, Tony Cocker, said: "Above all else I want to say thank you to all who built and worked at Kingsnorth throughout its lifetime."

TURNING OFF THE COUNTY'S GENERATORS

Power generation in the county is at something of a crossroads, with another 'end of an era' moment looming later this month.



With the towers of Richborough brought crashing down in such dramatic style last year, and no signs yet of Dungeness getting the extension it wants beyond 2018 to continue its nuclear power generation, the major landmarks which dotted the county are being lost.

It marks a shift away from traditional power generation to more environmentally friendly methods.

The campaign to get the life of Dungeness B extended continues.



THE END: Kingsnorth switches off this month and Richborough cooling towers, left, were demolished last year

LEGAL ACTION

It emerged this week pressure was applied to senior Government figures by E.ON executives to ensure tough sentences were handed out to those arrested during climate camp protests.

The Guardian reported that the then-UK chief executive of E.ON, Dr Paul Golby, lobbied then-energy secretary for the Labour Government – Ed Miliband – in 2010. E.ON claimed failure to take tough action on activists could "impact" upon UK investment.

Campaigners have slammed the findings.

The article quotes activist Ben Stewart: "It reads like a threat – clamp down on climate activism or we withdraw investment."

E.ON said: "When people break in to your workplace, often by cutting through or climbing over fences, and try to disrupt your legal, legitimate business, it is only right that you seek to protect your people and property.

"Following major incidents at two of our sites, including shocking scenes of violence at Ratcliffe, we were concerned for the safety of our people and that of the protestors. We felt it was appropriate properly and formally to raise our concerns with the appropriate areas of Government and did this in the correct fashion."

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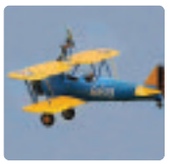
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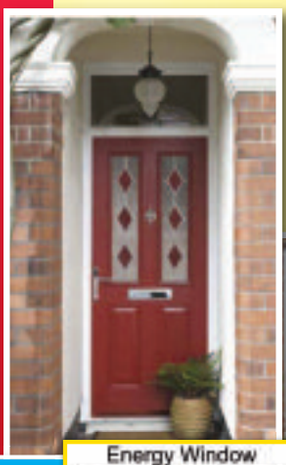
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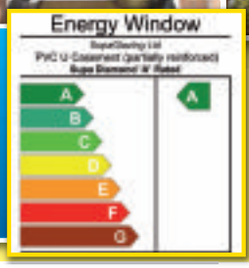
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CRIME

Appeal for 'vile' thief to return dead mum's ring

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

A GRIEVING son has spoken of the heartache caused by a thief who stole a gold ring from the finger of his dying mother as she lay in a hospice bed.

Wendy Dolton had been given the ring as a 40th wedding anniversary present eight years ago by her sick husband, Malcolm.

Even when battling cancer and in her final days, it never left her finger.

Her son Sean, 46, said: "The ring was given to my Mum in the last year of my Dad's life.

"We knew he was going to die. That's the reason why she wanted to keep the ring on, even when she was ill in the hospice. What's happened is despicable."

The thief stole the ring from her finger sometime between 6pm on Wednesday, February 13, and 6pm the next day.

Mrs Dolton, who lived near Dover, died late afternoon on Thursday, February 14.

She had been battling cancer since last October, at first cared for at home before moving to the Pilgrims Hospice in Thanet.

The 65-year-old was then transferred to the Pilgrims Hospice in London Road, Canterbury, where the theft took place.

Added Mr Dolton, a fire officer from Essex: "She was there up until her death on February 14. I was the last person to see her, on the evening of the 13th. She was wearing the ring then.

"My mother wouldn't have known what happened; she was on morphine. Well, I hope she didn't know."

Just an hour after his mother's death, Mr Dolton noticed the ring was missing.

"This really has hurt the family. Her brother and sister, who are 63 and 58, are over from Australia, her mother is still alive in Dover. She's 84.

"It's awful for them, knowing their sister and daughter was violated in this way.

"My brother and I are so angry. It's despicable. It's vile.

"What I would say to the thief is, please give it back. I don't care if they just put it in an envelope and give it to the police or hospice and don't say who they are. We just want it back."

He stressed that staff at the hospice had been "amazing".

He added: "My mother was a fun lady, absolutely full of life until she became ill. Having a good time, that was Mum."

The ring is described as a gold band with a large square diamond,

Chief executive of Pilgrims Hospices, Steve Auty, said there was no evidence to suggest any members of staff were involved in the theft.

He said: "We are all shocked and saddened by this whole episode.

"Pilgrims Hospices is co-operating fully with the police and I am leading our own internal investigation.

"We are not aware of an incident like this occurring in our three hospices at any time in our 30-plus years' history.

"Clearly, it is not a situation we want to occur in our hospices and especially not at such a difficult time for the family members concerned.

"Mrs Dolton's family are, understandably, deeply upset by what has occurred. I have spoken at length with Mrs Dolton's son, Sean, and assured him we are doing whatever we can to find out what happened."

Kent Police is asking anyone with information to get in touch.

PC Chris Poulter said: "The theft of the ring has caused a great deal of upset for Wendy's family at a time when they are already trying to cope with her sad passing.

"Pilgrims Hospice has been fully co-operative and our investigation continues. We have already visited some second hand shops and will continue to make enquiries.

"If anyone knows where the ring is, or has any information about the theft, I urge them to contact me on 101 quoting reference ZY/4459/13."

Alternatively, if you would prefer to remain anonymous, you can call Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



SAD: Wendy Dolton was given the ring by her husband, Malcolm, in the last year of his life, it was stolen in the last hours of hers



CRIME

Former Tory council leader jailed after 'abusing position of power'

FORMER Conservative Thanet District Council leader Sandy Ezekiel has been jailed for 18 months after being found guilty of four counts of misconduct in public office.

Ezekiel, 59, of Crow Hill, Broadstairs, was found to have committed the offences between September 22, 2009, and February 24, 2011.

The jury reached a unanimous verdict on all charges on Friday after spending two days deliberating.

Also in court in Maidstone was Philip Emanuel, 64, of Laleham Gardens, Margate, who faced one charge of aiding and abetting the alleged offences.

He was found guilty, also unanimously, and sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment, suspended for two years.

The charges concerned two adjacent properties in Margate's Old Town, close to the seafront.

One, 12a King Street, is a derelict shop, while the other is council-owned 12b King Street, a Grade II-listed two-bedroom semi-detached house.

Ezekiel faced four charges:

- That he wilfully misconducted himself while in public office by the improper use of confidential council information in respect of the sale of 12b to manipulate the purchase price to his own advantage.
- That he improperly and dishonestly bought the property using Philip Emanuel as a 'frontman' and failed to disclose that he was the true purchaser.
- That he asked enforcement proceedings be brought against the owner of 12a, Alan Douglas, to persuade him to sell the property.
- That he failed to disclose his interest in 12b to the council or Mr Douglas until after the sale was agreed.



DISHONEST: Ex-council leader Ezekiel

Investigating officer Detective Sergeant Adrian Brown from the Kent and Essex Serious Crime Directorate said: "Ezekiel abused his position of power and trust in a public office to wrongly put pressure on the owners of 12a King Street to sell in an already stressful economic climate.

"This came after he had already deceived his own council, of which he was meant to be the leader, by getting his close long-standing friend Philip Emanuel to purchase 12b King Street on his behalf.

"I'm pleased they have both answered the justice system and this sends out a strong message to anyone thinking of misusing their power that they will be investigated and pursued to the full extent of the law."

Both defendants had denied all the charges against them.

ROADS

Driver involved in crash which killed Kyle, 14, is sentenced to six months

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A 24-year-old man has been jailed for six months after his car struck and killed a teenage boy as he cycled along the A2 near Bapchild Cricket Club.

Kyle Coen, 14, from Sittingbourne, was on his way to see his girlfriend on July 30, 2012, when he was hit as he rode along the A2 London Road.

He was hit by a car driven by Robert Lawrence, 24, of Barrow Green, Teynham. Kyle died at the scene.

Appearing before Maidstone Crown Court this week, after having pleaded guilty to charges of failing to stop after an accident and perverting the course of justice, he was jailed and also disqualified from driving for 12 months.

Lawrence was heard to have failed to stop before calling 999 to inform police that his Fiat Brava had been stolen on the A2.

He told the operator he had managed to follow the stolen vehicle and that it had been damaged.

Officers were suspicious of his account and Lawrence was subsequently arrested soon after the collision.

Investigating officer, Detective Sergeant Paul Fewtrell of Kent Police, said: "Offences of failure to stop following a collision are serious, but leaving the scene where a teenager sustained injuries that resulted in his death was shocking to all involved in this investigation.

"This was compounded by the phone call to police by Lawrence reporting his vehicle had been stolen. The damage to his vehicle would clearly have shown to him the extent of the injury caused, yet he tried to deflect the blame at the earliest opportunity."

Detective Sergeant Scott Lynch, of the serious collision investigation unit, said: "I would like to thank those members of the public who did stop and try to resuscitate Kyle for their efforts.

"The message here is you must always stop after a collision. If you do not, you will face consequences which include going to prison."



TRAGEDY: Teenager Kyle Coen (pictured) was hit by a car while cycling along the A2 to visit his girlfriend last summer

CRIME

Prison for alley sex attacker who blamed the devil for his actions

A VILE sex attacker who assaulted a woman in an alleyway telling her "the devil wanted it to happen" has been jailed for two years.

Ellis Bush, 23, formerly of Hawthorn Road, Strood, pleaded guilty to molesting the 23-year-old victim after meeting her outside a nightclub in Gillingham.

The pair went for a walk but when a taxi later pulled up for the woman, Bush said he would walk her home.

He insisted they go into a deserted cut-through, Two Post Alley, where he attacked her, telling her "the devil wanted it to happen". He ran off afterwards, leaving the distraught woman helpless and slumped in the street.

An investigation was launched by Kent Police and after painstaking examination of the evidence, including forensic enquiries, officers arrested Bush on November 30, 2011, just over two weeks after the offence.



He was jailed at Maidstone Crown Court and ordered to sign the Sex Offenders Register for 10 years.

Investigating officer DC Dee Goddard said: "I would like to praise the victim for the bravery she showed throughout Bush's arrest and conviction, which was a harrowing ordeal for her.

"Attacking a vulnerable woman is completely unacceptable and we absolutely will not allow people who do this to get away with it.

"We had nothing to go on initially with regard to a suspect, but he was identified via CCTV and other local enquiries.

"Then, as the investigation progressed, forensic evidence was discovered which further supported the case and linked him to the crime.

"This should serve as a warning for anybody who thinks they can get away with sexual assault: we will bring you to justice."

LITERATURE

Stars turn up to mark Dickens' big birthday

TV NEWSREADER Jan Leeming and the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens attended the monthly meeting of the Rochester and Chatham Dickens Fellowship.

The event took on added significance as it marked the 201st birthday of the author who spent his final years at his family home in nearby Higham. Gerald Dickens did a reading and took questions from the audience.

TRADING

Warning over doorstep callers offering work

TRADING standards officers have issued a warning for householders to be cautious of doorstep callers canvassing for building and roofing work.

It follows incidents in and around the Borough Green area.

A spokesman said: "If you are considering work in or on your property it is always best to get at least a couple of quotes from traders."




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ENTERTAINMENT

Castle Concerts line-up completed with 80s gold



MAIN EVENT: The Wanted will be headlining one night of the annual Castle Concerts in Rochester

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

SOME of the biggest names from the 80s will be rocking Rochester Castle this summer after the final headliners were announced for the hugely popular Castle Concerts.

On Friday, July 19, Spandau Ballet frontman Tony Hadley, ABC and Go West will unite for a star-studded show with rockers The Fortunate completing the bill.

They will come hot on the heels of Thursday's headliners, The Wanted.

The pop act have become one of the biggest names in the charts, with two number one singles to their name. They are no strangers to Rochester having performed alongside girl group The Saturdays in 2010.

The Castle Concerts series had already confirmed Status Quo as headliners for the first day on July 17, and the traditional Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra will wrap things up in style on the Saturday, with the Castle Proms.

Medway Council's portfolio holder for community services, Howard Doe, said: "The Castle Concerts are unique among music festivals in the south east because of their initimate setting and the amazing atmosphere, as well as the calibre of perfomers who play here.

"It really is one of the few places you can really get close up to some of the best live performers around, and we're very proud of this year's line up which once again offers something for everyone."

Tickets for The Wanted go on sale on Monday at £35.

The 80s Night will cost £30. Already on sale are the Status Quo and Castle Proms shows.

Last year's concerts included headline performances from the likes of reformed pop group Steps, Jools Holland, and soul legends Billy Ocean and Alexander O'Neal.

REMEMBER THEM?



ABC

Fronted by Martin Fry, the group's Lexicon of Love album, produced by Trevor Horn, is considered one of the decade's finest, spawning such era defining hits as Poison Arrow and the Look of Love.



Go West

Peter Cox and Richard Drummie crashed into the charts in 1985 with We Close Our Eyes, followed by the likes of Call Me. They became big in the US too with hits such as the King of Wishful Thinking, which was in the movie Pretty Woman.



Tony Hadley

One of the 80s' best known bands, Spandau Ballet scored huge hits such as Chant No.1, True and Gold with Hadley as its charismatic frontman. The group, along with the likes of Wham! and Duran Duran define the decade for many.

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AGRICULTURE

Farmers left in the hands of the elements after weather chaos plays havoc with crop planting

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



HEAVY rain before Christmas and the prolonged freeze so far this year is playing havoc with the county's farmers, who once again find themselves struggling against the elements.

The combination of record rainfall swiftly followed by snow and ice has meant farmers only managed to sow a fraction of their crops.

And it means they are currently praying for warmer weather to heat the ground and allow some last-minute planting.

During the snow, farmers said what few crops were in the ground would be fine if the thaw and some heat came quickly, but unfortunately this has failed to materialise.

Andy Barr farms 2,000 acres at East Lenham Farm, near Maidstone. He has a mix of 1,000 Romney ewes, 35 Sussex beef cattle and crops, including wheat, barley, oats and oil seed rape.

He said: "What we are seeing now is a continuation of the bad weather we saw last year.

"Nearly everyone I know has failed to get all their crops planted. Perhaps only 70 to 80 per cent of the crops that should have been planted last year have been done.

"Livestock wise, it makes for a lot of difficulties because sheep in the fields can't find grass and need to be fed hay.

"And with the pipes freezing up this makes watering the animals difficult. It is a constant battle keeping them thawed.

"We go to milk the cows and the machinery is usually frozen at 4am. People with dairy cattle will be having a hard time."

He added: "At the moment it's not quite cold enough for us to actually lose crops, but we urgently need some sun. This year the crops are very small and not many got planted because it was such a wet autumn."

Doug Taylor, the Kent National Farmers' Union branch chairman, has 1,100 acres at Hope Farm, near Folkestone, growing crops such as wheat, barley and oats.

He said: "Previously, we expect to have planted all 1,100 acres by October 3. As the year started we had 300 acres left to plant – and we still do.

"Hopefully we can make a start in the next few days. Currently, the top soil is drying out quickly, but underneath is not drying as fast and that can cause problems.

"Once we get the seeds in the ground, it wants to warm up a bit. At the moment the easterly winds are drying everything out.

"The ideal scenario would be the cold wind on the parts we haven't done and a warm wind on the bits we have."

This week the NFU claimed the poor weather could eventually cost British farmers more than £500m.

Union officials produced the figure after an ongoing survey since November, saying many farmers now fear for their business.

LAND SALE SPARKS INTEREST

A HUGE, multimillion pound block of arable land is up for sale near Maidstone.

The site, in and around Burham, consists of some 624 acres and includes farmland, woodland and nearly 100 acres of chalk quarries.

Giles Wordsworth, head of Smiths Gore, the agent selling the land, said the site on the edge of the North Downs was set to attract significant interest.

He said: "In the current market it is rare such a substantial block comes to market in Kent and the land market is hungry for this type of property, generating both agricultural and commercial interest."

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ENTERTAINMENT

The troubled school days that led to Oscars glory

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ACTOR Daniel Day-Lewis spent the week basking in the afterglow of yet another major Academy Award – but the superstar admits his time spent as a Kent schoolboy was one to forget.

Mr Day-Lewis scooped the best actor title at the prestigious awards night in Los Angeles for his title role in Steven Spielberg's Lincoln – a critically-acclaimed bio-pic about one of the most famous US presidents.

It was his third best actor Oscar, making him the first person ever to achieve such a distinction.

But it has not always been easy for the 55-year-old.

He spent much of his youth growing up in Greenwich before his parents – his father was poet laureate Cecil Day-Lewis – sent him to Sevenoaks School at the age of 12 to be a boarder at the public school.

Reflecting on his life, Mr Day-Lewis said: "When we lived in Greenwich, other children could have chosen any one of a number of insults, since I was Irish and Jewish and from a different class to most of the kids.

"They knew that because of my voice. But children are very adaptable. They're great performers: they perform for their parents all the time, to find out how to get what they want. To me, it was absolutely unconscious. It was raw survival."

Having found himself involved in fights and other petty crimes, his parents felt him "too wild" and, in 1968, the year his father became poet laureate, he was sent to Sevenoaks.

The gloom that plagued Day-Lewis in Greenwich continued at Sevenoaks. He lasted well under two years before taking flight.

Mr Day-Lewis reflects: "That experience of going to boarding school was the formative experience of my life. I lasted a year and then I legged it. I knew instinctively that I would be crushed by this place.

"It was alien and unattractive in every single one of its millions of details. A feeling of nausea stayed with me from the moment I got there until the moment I left.

"And there was the code of honour, so you never talk about your suffering. So you have to do it in silence. Or find a place where you can be on your own and scream."

But Mr Day-Lewis did discover three things he loved while in Kent – woodworking, acting and fishing.

As a confident 12-year-old he demanded to make a ping-pong table "which to their credit they let me do. All my life's ambition went into this table. I took it home; we used it for years." And his work with wood "was the start of what became one of my greatest abiding loves".

ACTRESS HIGHS AND LOWS

Anne Hathaway – who spent time filming Les Miserables at Chatham Historic Dockyard – was also celebrating after scooping best supporting actress for her role in the big screen adaptation of the popular musical.

The film, which has become a global hit, shot extensive scenes at the dockyard and saw all the major stars in attendance.

But there was disappointment for Naomi Watts – the Kent-born star of tsunami movie The Impossible. Nominated in the best actress category, she missed out to Jennifer Lawrence and her role in Silver Linings Playbook.

Ms Watts was brought up in Shoreham, near Sevenoaks, and inspired to take to the stage after seeing her mother in an amateur dramatics performance in the village.



DAY-LEWIS SO FAR...

Daniel Day-Lewis has established himself as one of the world's foremost actors, with his three Oscars the reward for a remarkable career.

In addition to the award for Lincoln, he picked up the same gong in 1989 for My Left Foot and again in 2007 for There Will Be Blood. He also has four BAFTAs, three Screen Actors Guild Awards, and six nominations at the Golden Globes, taking two wins.

His method of acting has been described as so extreme, other actors are often scared of him. He stays in character on and off set, fully committing himself to the role he is portraying.

During the build up to The Boxer, he sparred for 350 rounds under the watchful eye of Barry McGuigan, a former featherweight world champ who has a home in Dargate. The actor suffered injuries including a broken nose.



SUCCESS: Daniel Day-Lewis won his third Oscar for his portrayal of Lincoln

Sevenoaks School did not comment when contacted this week.

Previous old boys include Dad's Army star Clive Dunn, who died recently, and actor, comedian and writer Charlie Higson.

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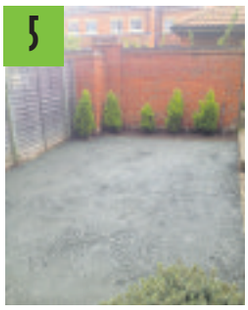


















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EVENT

Geek's ready to progress to the next level as festival exceeds expectations

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ORGANISERS of a festival dedicated to video gaming say the surge in interest for last weekend's event has ensured it will be back next year.

And they have vowed it will be bigger and better than ever.

The Game Expo East Kent, or Geek, took place across four days, concluding last Sunday, at venues across Margate, with the heart of the action at the Winter Gardens.

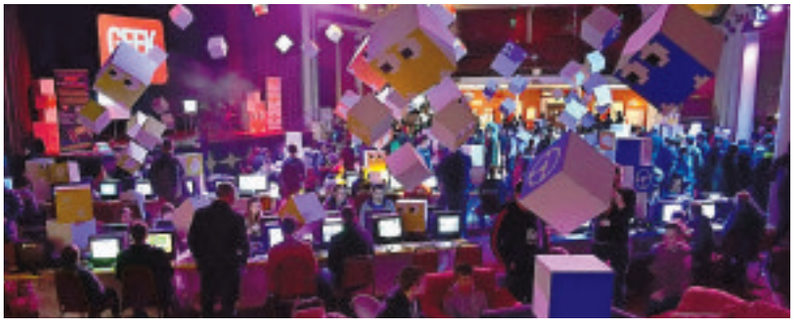
Visitors were able to play on thousands of games, past and present, and coinciding with the half-term holiday meant audiences doubled on its inaugural year to around 5,000.

Organisers say they have not made a fortune from the event, but it's enough to help finance another expo next year.

Kate Neale said: "We could not be more delighted with the way it went.

"The crowds were dramatically up on the first show last year, and that has given us the confidence to not only put it on again next year, but to increase our ambitions and make it bigger and better. At this stage it seems all our speakers and exhibitors also want to return as they enjoyed it so much.

"It means the building blocks are in place for the future. I am so happy to have doubled the crowds – it is a fantastic achievement."



GAMING HEAVEN: Thousands of visitors attended the second annual Geek festival last weekend

She said Geek was never about making money but to serve as another tool in the regeneration of the town.

The organiser added: "Gaming is in the DNA of this town and we want to build on that. Companies can now easily see the skills local people have and can see Margate is an ideal location to set up shop."

She explained: "The primary objective was not to make money but we are pleased with the way it has gone. We were told we would make a loss in the first year, break even in the second and make some money in the third. We are ahead of the curve already, which is great and means next year should be fantastic. It is why I am so confident it can become a regular event.

"This is more than just a retro games show. We are putting a framework in place for skills and knowledge exchange. There are much bigger long-term ambitions for the festival.

"People who come to talk are doing it because they believe in what we are doing here. It's not so I can swan off to Barbados.

"We are a community interest company. What we are doing is for the benefit of the area and that's the motivation behind the festival."

FAR FROM CHILD'S PLAY

Do not make the mistake of underestimating the video game industry or dismissing it as the preserve of the younger generation.

From sales of games and consoles to their creation, the UK has become one of the world's most fertile gaming territories.

In 2011, games overtook DVDs as the biggest sellers, with sales of £1.93 billion in the UK alone. Meanwhile, the games development sector contributes more than £1bn to the UK gross domestic product each year.

The UK is home to the studios which have spawned such global hits as Grand Theft Auto IV – the fastest selling entertainment product of all time – and gaming series LittleBigPlanet.

What's more, interest is likely to increase later this year, with Sony recently unveiling its PlayStation 4 console.

GAMING IN NUMBERS



Video games
£1.93bn

DVDs/Blu-ray/video
£1.80bn

Music
£1.07bn

Sales in 2011 in the UK
Source: The Entertainment Retailers Association (ERA)

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KENT **REMEMBERED**



Book celebrates the unsung heroes who kept our navy afloat

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

"THE apprenticeship at Chatham Dockyard is the finest in the world – if you stick to it, the world's your oyster."

That's what Robert Smith's father told his teenage son more than half a century ago.

The advice was not wasted and Robert – or 'Nige' to his mates – cycled the four miles from his home in Rainham on September 22, 1958, to begin his first day at work, learning how to build, repair and maintain the ships of the Royal Navy.

Then, the docks employed 6,000 people on a two-mile long waterside site encompassing hundreds of workshops, offices and storehouses as well as its own police station, fire service, medical centre, technical college and telephone exchange. There were three ship-refitting basins and eight main docks with facilities for the navy's most deadly warships – nuclear-powered submarines.

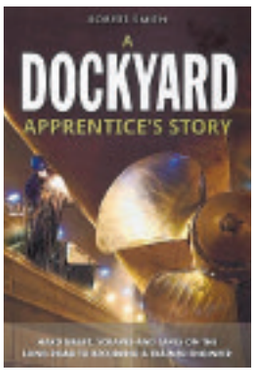
Yet less than 30 years later the dockyard effectively closed, with catastrophic consequences to the local economy and a tremendous sense of loss.

"I wanted to tell my story," said Mr Smith. "I never regretted the apprenticeships. Along with the study and hard work, there were plenty of good times."

He subtitled his book: Hard graft, Scrapes and Japes on the Long Road to Becoming a Trained Engineer.

Many engineering firms across Medway benefitted from the excellent training given to the young men who came to work at the Royal Navy base.

"It had a floating crane and a nuclear submarine refitting facility," said Mr Smith. "To enter as an apprentice you took an examination then chose your preferred trade. The highest qualified made their choices progressively until all the vacancies were filled.



EDUCATION: Above, refitting a nuclear submarine was part of an apprentice's job at the docks

"Often electrical engineering apprenticeships were the first taken, followed by mechanical fitters, shipwrights, shipfitters, coppersmiths, patternmakers, carpenters and so on."

Leisure time for the apprentices included trips to the Royal Cinema in Rainham, called "The Bughutch". Usual money needed was two and threepence halfpenny (about 12p); the shillings paid for entry, the rest was for fruit gums.

After intial training, Mr Smith went to the milling section.

"The majority of craftsmen were not keen to take on apprentices," he said. "The dockyard pay scheme included extra money by way of a bonus scheme, the faster you completed the job to the required standard the more you earned.

"When you were training an apprentice it slowed you down. The other drawback with training an apprentice was that they would get bored very quickly."

Operating dangerous machinery and having to work in confined spaces and at height, the apprentices had very little in the way of health and safety. Added to that were the sometimes dangerous practical jokes they played on each other.

"Ear defenders were not available to everyone," said Mr Smith. "And the effects of toxic fumes were not fully understood. There was a culture that it was unmanly to request any safety equipment, the only exception being safety goggles, as so many men had lost eyes."

Towards the end of his apprenticeship Mr Smith took part in the sea trials of a ship called the Rame Head, which acted as tender to submarines. But as his prospects rescinded towards the end of the apprentice period he took a decision.

An opening appeared at the lowest level of management at 21 shillings a week (£1.05) and Mr Smith took it, leading to a career in the Ministry of Defence and other Government agencies. But he still remembers with pride the skills the apprentices were taught, from nuclear turbines to radar, propellers to rope making, which kept the Royal Navy afloat.

"We really were the unsung heroes," he said. "Weren't we?"

■ **A Dockyard Apprentice's Story, published by Memoirs Publishing, is available online and in stores now.**

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OPINION

We need to learn lessons in food

As the horsemeat scandal gathers pace **Laura Sandys** warns it's just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the country's problem with food

IN recent weeks food issues have shot to the top of the political agenda.

What began with some horsemeat being found in Tesco burgers has now escalated to police raids on abattoirs and the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs describing the situation as an "international criminal conspiracy".

Yet this was not an isolated event, but a symptom of the wider problems in our food chain.

In the past five years food prices have increased by a third. This is down to some unavoidable events, such as the drought in the USA, but also the fact that food is increasingly seen as a valuable international commodity – as Ukraine's use of grain to underwrite a recent debt swap with China illustrates.

Yet while wholesale food prices have risen greatly, at the more value end your £1 ready meal is still £1, but it now consists of less meat and more 'fillers' like high fructose corn syrup. Of course, there has been no advertising campaign accompanying this change – the supermarkets do not want to draw your attention to it.

To deal with this I have called on the Government to appoint a new Minister for the Food Consumer.

This person would be charged with ensuring that both the Government and the food industry are always honest and straightforward with the public about food – therefore allowing the consumer to make informed choices.

However, this minister would have to do more than just highlight false promotions and potential food safety issues – they would also have to address our wider problems with food in the UK.

Personally, I believe a key part of this problem is a lack of food education.

In the 1980s, Delia Smith's cook books had whole chapters dedicated to leftovers, but in Jamie Oliver's latest book they barely get a mention.

As a nation we have lost the skills we need to be able to create affordable, simple and nutritious meals from cheap ingredients.

I have been campaigning to see food education made part of the national curriculum in order to address this problem and was very pleased when Michael Gove, the Secretary of State for Education, included it in his draft proposal for the next national curriculum.

Some parents do not have the time or the money to cook for their families. They have to buy chips from the local fish and chip shop or basic ready meals from cornershops or pound shops.

In one area of Thanet, where



This was not an isolated event but a sign of wider issues in our food chain

the majority of people live in privately rented accommodation, some families only have a microwave rather than an oven. This obviously makes cooking even more difficult.

Unless we all change our relationship with food then problems like the horsemeat scandal will continue to happen.

If we learn to value our food and ensure that the youngest generations are taught food preparation skills from an early age then we will be able to reverse this growing problem.

It would also enable hard working families to eat well, for less money.

Britain will have to change its approach to food.

We cannot contract out our food policy to an industry whose gospel is "cheap as chips".

■ **Laura Sandys is the Conservative Member of Parliament for South Thanet.**

KOS COMMENT

D-Day has come but the wait for some continues

NATIONAL Offer Day has always been stressful for Kent with oversubscribed grammar schools thrown into the secondary school mix.

This year, thanks to some school expansion, that dark cloud has lifted and the majority of pupils allocated their first choice.

But we mustn't forget those who missed out. Not only do they face another wait to see what the appeals process will bring but some may end up going to a school they deem second best. The battle to find the perfect placement for each child may be impossible but with the education mantra 'every child matters' all efforts should be made to ensure they are happy with their eventual placement.

Blowers' disappointment

HENRY Blofeld was anything but bowled over by his recent visit to the Theatre Royal, scoring little over a century in audience numbers.

Theatre bosses be warned; his father was the namesake of James Bond supervillain Ernst Stavro Blofeld so you many not want to get on the wrong side of him.

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Canterbury by air
by Todd Emerson in Shepherdswell

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Putting bigots in their place

MY, what a load of bigots have been putting pen to paper [KoS 17/02/13].

1. Homosexuality is not unnatural. It isn't man-made and is therefore natural. It has been documented in many species of animals, unlike homophobia, which has only been documented in one.

2. Marriage itself is unnatural, gay or straight; it is something that does not occur in other animal species, nor does it predate humanity.

3. Nature as an indicator is a poor argument when you're writing in to a newspaper, whether writing on paper or typing an email; the very fact you're writing, or wearing clothes or... the list goes on. If you disagree with things that you deem 'unnatural', no matter how incorrectly your ability to understand the word, there is no denying you are validating your own argument by writing to a newspaper.

4. Traditionally, marriage is a means of transferring ownership of women and their commodities between men. Marriage has been fundamentally changed throughout the ages and only strengthened and not weakened.

5. The minority of MPs voting against gay marriage goes to show that the last remaining dinosaurs are meeting their extinction. If you do not support gay marriage, keep it to yourself. Unless you are directly affected by the issue and let's face it, the overwhelming majority of opponents aren't.

6. It's nice to know people are sick of reading about 'gays'. I'm sick of reading how my love is supposedly inferior and a threat to society. A good many of us want to live our lives quietly. But how selfish can you be to deny people rights on the grounds that you having yours is good enough for us all?

7. The fact MPs voted for equality and didn't listen to braying bigots who think they own the world is proof they are actually doing their job. Do you think democracy is failing in our country? If democracy means the majority can oppress the minority, then democracy deserves to fail. What matters is that everyone gets to live life happily, not those who are priviliged to be born in the majority.

8. Persecuted majority? You make me sick. The holocaust and other genocide campagins were persecution. Telling you that other people have the right to live their lives as much as you do when they aren't harming anyone is not persecution. You are not losing anything, other people are simply getting to share your rights. Grow up.

9. Bigot is not an insult and it's extremely childish to play the victim. If you don't want to be called a bigot, don't behave like one. A bigot is a person who discriminates against other people who are simply living their lives and not harming anyone. If you don't think you fit the bill, then how do you justify believing that other people should be denied rights for no valid reason – and there is none.

10. Being intolerant towards bigotry is not itself bigotry. It's not bigotry to be intolerant towards murderers, thieves or rapists because these people harm others through their actions. In the same way, bigotry towards homosexuality seeks to belittle and oppress people who are not harming others, but are in fact taking just as important a place in society and making an equivalent contribution.

Drew J Smith, Gillingham

MPs have no life experience

CLLR Ian Driver has got it spot on and the recent scandals add even more to the credibility of his letter [KoS 24/02].

The country is being ruined by career polticians who have come straight out of education with no experience of life and what it's like to exist on a limited income. Most see being an MP as a stepping stone to something better and use it to cultivate contacts for their future advancement, often to the detriment of this country.

Neither of the main parties ever listen to the public and often run contrary to their wishes. We have neither a Socialist Party, or a Conservative Party, the old ideals having been replaced by 'suits' who look only to their short term interests and continuing the 'Punch and Judy' farce blaming each other for the country's ills, while the apathetic British keep complaining, but still vote them in on a revolving door basis.

Unless we have a sea change in how and why people vote, the 'buggins turn' system will continue and this country will go nowhere other than down.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Augustine was not the first

IT was disappointing to read in your newspaper a repeat of the popular myth that Augustine brought Christianity to England in AD597.

Christianity was established here 500 years before this. Clement, the apostle Paul's fellow worker, wrote in AD97 that Paul preached the Gospel "to the utmost islands of the west". The Christian faith was well established by 314AD when bishops from Britain attended the Church Council of Arles. Prior to this the British church suffered severe persecution under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, when more than 10,000 Christians were put to death.

Persecution began again after the Roman occupying forces withdrew. For a while, the British population and the Anglo Saxon invaders lived together in an uneasy peace. But upon Augustine's arrival, when he found the Roman Catholic religion rejected by the leaders of the British church because it was not the gospel of Christ, he used the Anglo Saxons to renew the persecution. Many fled to Wales and the West Country.

In the light of all this, it is not right to call Augustine a 'saint'. There was one, it was St Augustine of Hippo.

Rev RE Callender, Minster

Pope follows Christ's words

WITH reference to Professor Roger Gill's recent comment piece on the resignation of the Pope which you ran in your February 17 edition, he omitted to mention Christ gave his Apostles the authority to bind and loose. It would seem the Holy Father has decided to loose after much prayer and meditation.

The Queen is a different case, she enjoys good health. The Archbishop of Canterbury deals with the day to day running of the Church of which she is a figurehead. There are members of her family who can take up the slack for her now she and Prince Phillip are in need of a slower schedule.

May Pope Benedict find peace and solace in his retirement.

Margaret Mcniff, Margate

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NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899**

JACKIE busty blonde, husband away seeks no strings fun. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 400453**

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523**

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273**

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382**

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067**

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LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891**

BLACK African lady, late 30's, no ties, likes country walks, gardening, cinema, seaside, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393272**

DEBBIE 50, seeking man, 60 plus with GSOH for fun nights out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398173**

MARGARET 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248**

MARY 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

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BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391**

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

FEMALE looking for male for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, likes life, fit, active, seeks male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393065**

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LYN 59, slim, fair, looking for someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397347**

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45YR old female, 5ft 5ins, brown hair, cuddly, curvaceous, love animals, music, sports, seeks kind, caring, sincere, mature male, 40 plus with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381319**

PAT widowed mid 60's blonde female, loves dancing, happy-go-lucky WLTM similar aged nice male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389195**

FEMALE 21, brown eyes, loving, looking for male, 20-30 for nights in and loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396057**

INTERESTING attractive, uncomplicated, intelligent lady, many interests, seeks honourable, kind gent, 68-75 for long-term companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392211**

FOLKESTONE lady, 58, 5ft 1ins, animal lover, cuddly, affectionate, GSOH, seeks male, 58-63 to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395551**

SUE 54, fairly slim, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks male, 45-55, N/S, likes football, sports, meals out etc., looking for lasting relationship and cuddles. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392803**

WIDOW 70's, many interests, seeks gent who misses companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396401**

SUE 53, slim, blue eyes, likes football, animals, seeks N/S male, 45-55 for loving, lasting relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386247**

FEMALE likes country walks, gardening, animals, seeks male for company, meals out and nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390147**

LYNETTE 60, South African, new to area, N/S, sociable, like the outdoors, looking for new friends. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386387**

BLACK female, 30, likes animals, swimming, music, singing, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395941**

HAPPY go lucky lady, seeks tall, honest guy, 50-56 hopefully with a boat. Kent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392529**

LUCY kind caring, honest, fuller figured, blonde, blue eyes, 44, looking for older man, kind, caring and honest. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395805**

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, medium build, 49, bubbly, looking for male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386401**

CLAUDIA curvy size 20, Mediterranean, blonde hair, brown eyes, seeks mature male, 40-55 for friendship, companionship and enjoy life together. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373611**

PAT 67, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, widow, likes dancing, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390201**

KENTISH lady, 50, no longer wishes to make do or mend broken heart, seeks kind gent to form patchwork moments. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392865**

63YR old female, loving, tactile, seeks genuine male, 60-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381863**

SANDRA 63, likes cuddles, varied interests, WLTM male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383497**

HAZEL blonde, 62, pretty, cuddly, N/S, non-drinker, seeks genuine, attractive male, 55-65 for fun and friendship. Ramsgate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366319**

JO bubbly, fun, red hair, green eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes nights out, DVDs, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374337**

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SUSIE from Kent, seeking tall honest guy for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375883**

MARY likes most things, nights out, socialising, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383847**

LONELY Folkestone lady, 57, 5ft 1ins, medium build, N/S, seeks caring, considerate male for walks by the sea and pubs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371067**

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VALERIE looking for genuine male for nights out and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387173**

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PRETTY petite lady sought by older, professional businessman, looking for LTR and loyalty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394530**

ANDY 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903**

BLACK male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887**

TONY 50, likes nights in/out, football, fishing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394506**

BRIAN fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402729**

BLACK British male, African descent, medium build, varied interests, understanding, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402641**

ROBERT medium build, single, seeks nice, attractive, busty female with sexy clothes. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402597**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easy-going, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402531**

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499**

AARON 35, no ties, 5ft 9ins, clean shaven, attractive, Italian background, chef, down to earth, open minded, likes meals out, weekends away, socialising, cinema, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402497**

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481**

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405**

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

EDDIE African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354**

SWANSEA man, 51, 5ft 6ins, slim, seeks slim female for nights in/out, company, walks, talks and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402033**

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913**

5FT 7ins white male, 50, N/S, looking to settle down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401897**

AVERAGE male, 50's, large build, broadminded, OHAC, GSOH, naturist novice, smoker, seeks petite/medium build lady for relationship. Must be uninhibited, broadminded and mature. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401887**



PETE 55, good looking, 6ft 2ins, own hair, seeking attractive female, 45-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394294**

GENUINE fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761**

GRAHAM 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595**

TALL 64yr old young at heart N/S male, widower, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401531**

TONY retired, GSOH, likes indoor life, dvds, seeking N/S lady, 65 plus, likes countryside for friendship. West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401481**

BARRY 49, 6ft, well built, easygoing, seeks female to wine/dine and have fun times with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401401**

THANET male, smart, young, mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive, local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401399**

HANDCUFFS and whips. Male 49, seeks younger, slim-medium build female for fun times. Chatham. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401365**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, likes most things, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401361**

GENT 49, romantic, caring, reliable, fun, seeks nice lady friend with same attributes, who has also been badly let down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401353**

TIM own car/flat, seeks N/S lady 60-70's for holidays, companionship etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401351**

ALAN from Kent, looking for Miss Right to fall in love again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401329**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, GSOH, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401309**

SINGLE solvent 60yr old male, seeks female companion for days out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401281**

SEAMUS 5ft 10ins, black hair, green eyes, average build, likes travel, weekends away, animal lover, varied interests, N/S, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401279**

SLIM 67yr old male, fit, loving, 5ft 7ins, blue eyes, independent, sociable, easygoing, enjoys usual, seeks honest lady to share it all with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401245**

LOVING caring Ashford male, 46, likes outdoors, country pubs, cosy nights in, seeks similar female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401233**

BLACK male, 50, 6ft, down to earth, easygoing, seeks female, 38-55 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401135**

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By **JOE BILL**



LoMo save the last laugh

Maurice Gran talks serious comedy for the latest show by the Dreamboats writing duo



EVERY so often there is a musician, artist or writer you come across who, with a little research, unleashes a vast back-catalogue of work that you may never have known about.

Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran are two such people. Renowned in both the broadcast and theatre industries, Lo and Mo, as they are affectionately known, are comedic writers with a high pedigree.

The pairing have penned classic sitcoms like Birds Of A Feather and Goodnight Sweetheart, as well as Get Back, Unfinished Business and political satire show The New Statesman starring Rik Mayall.

And now LoMo have begun to create works for the stage with their first effort, Dreamboats And Petticoats, scoring two consecutive tours, a stint in the West End and reportedly more than a million viewers.

They now return with a second Jukebox musical in Save The Last Dance For Me.

Gran said: "Originally we were asked if we would like to write the book for a musical which celebrated the music of Doc Pomus and Mort Shuman, who wrote a lot of songs in the early 60s for Elvis, The Drifters and Ben E King. The producers were big fans of theirs and I think one had been friends with them. So it was a labour of love and they came to us.

'You shouldn't limit your aspirations. That doesn't mean you won't fail, but you should have a go.'

"We wanted to write something a bit grittier than Dreamboats And Petticoats, bearing in mind that it was a similar era, so we didn't want to seem to be writing Dreamboats Two.

"So the story is of two sisters who go to the seaside in East Anglia, where there is a US Air Force base, and one of them falls in love with an African-American airman and of course has to deal with the problems that would cause at the time. It's a happy show, but we tried to touch on that thankfully almost-forgotten era."

LoMo are respected for the comedy elements of their shows and took home a BAFTA and an International Emmy for their Tory government-inspired sitcom The New Statesman.

"We tried to keep the comedic element out of the show but failed," said Gran. "Unless you're doing something deliberate like Hamlet as a musical, which I don't think we will, of course there will be comedy.

"There is light and darkness – we have tried to write it as a classic musical in which the featured love story normally involves people who take themselves quite seriously. And then in the second and third stories is where you can have a bit of fun. That is the style we've gone for."

The pair met at a youth club in north London in the early 1960s and subsequently played in a number of unsuccessful pop groups, followed by a joint career as unsuccessful music promoters. Their musical memories were put to the test for their latest theatre shows, with all hits coming from the 60s period.

"They are all classic songs. You've got hits like His Latest Flame and Little Sister – they're terrific. When we did Dreamboats, some of the characters wrote their own songs, so there were new songs to use. Save The Last Dance was harder because we had to start with the catalogue of Pomus and Shuman and see how far we could go. It was a very different discipline."

It wasn't until 1978 that Marks, working as a journalist, and Gran, a civil servant, got their break writing for Frankie Howerd's radio show after a chance meeting with legendary writer and producer Barry Took. LoMo went from strength to strength, penning shows such as Holding The Fort and the very popular comedy-drama Shine On Harvey Moon from 1982-85.

"Both of us always say the show we are most proud of is Shine On Harvey Moon – it was the first time we went from writing half to full hours for TV and it took us to a different level... the way we were perceived in the industry and the way we realised that if you set your mind to do something you stand a chance of doing it. You shouldn't limit yourself in your aspirations. That doesn't mean you won't fail, but you should have a go."

The pair have been concentrating on their theatre shows for the last few years, but a return to the small screen is never far from their minds.

"Having given TV quite a big rest, we're doing a couple of comedy pilots this year. It's very early days, but we hope to do something again.

"TV is great, but the process has become lengthier. There are so many more channels and people to deal with. People in theatre crack on with things.

"About five years ago we started writing a TV drama which never happened, but by the time we knew it wasn't going to happen we had written a musical – it had been on two tours, been in the West End and nominated for an Olivier award, and we still hadn't heard back from the TV.

"So we're happy to find ourselves in the theatre and realising there is no substitute for the buzz you get from live theatre – just to go into a theatre and see people enjoying what you've done.

"It's different in television, where people give you the viewing figures and you say 'Only two million? That's a bit disappointing'. But when you go to a theatre and there are 1,000 people having fun, it's not disappointing at all.

"These are ordinary people who have forked out their hard-earned cash and if you see them having a good time, you're satisfied on lots of levels."

■ **Save The Last Dance For Me plays at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, from Monday to Saturday, March 11-16. Visit www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk or phone 01892 530613 for tickets.**

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The Phantoms of the Opera are here

West End actor Earl Carpenter talks to **Joe Bill** about reprising the celebrated role with the help of two others





SINGING OUT: Earl Carpenter is one of the three phantoms taking part in the musical extravaganza

THERE are only a handful of actors who can say they've played the lead role in Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit show The Phantom Of The Opera.

Audiences in Dartford will soon be able to see three in one room as a unique show heads to The Orchard Theatre – The Three Phantoms.

West End stars Earl Carpenter, Matthew Cammelle and Stephen John Davis have all played the masked musician and will bring a celebration of the world's greatest musicals to the production.

Three Phantoms features songs from The King And I, Les Misérables, West Side Story, Spamalot, Into The Woods, My Fair Lady, Jersey Boys, Matilda and, of course, The Phantom of the Opera. But it won't all be singing and dancing, as Earl Carpenter explains.

"It's a songs-from-the-shows concert, but it is done in a very relaxed, very enjoyable way. It's all about the three guys, about our experiences of being in Phantom and our anecdotes and things like that.

"One of our best reviews described it as 'where musical theatre meets the Rat Pack'. The idea is also about having three great voices, plus our guest, Rebecca Caine, which gives us the opportunity to deliver songs from musicals we have all been involved with. It's based on our experiences."

The format is far from a West End classic, with each of the actors much more interactive with the crowd. "It's whatever happens. We make use of it. We talk about the stuff we are doing on stage. There is a section that is based around all different versions of The Phantom of the Opera.

"We take the audience on a voyage of discovery because there are 39 different stage adaptations of the show, not just Andrew Lloyd Webber's version. It's informal but interesting."

Earl Carpenter is also known for playing the on-stage lead role of Javert in Les Miserables, the latest musical to make it on to the silver screen.

"I've not seen the film, so I can't comment on it really, but it's no different to all the other musicals that have been turned into films over the years.

"Musicals have always had a place in film – it's great and exciting to know that after all these years the story is still finding its feet in a different forum. Everyone thinks it might die a death one day, but it doesn't. The film won't kill the theatre event because people still want to see it."

Carpenter, 42, has appeared in hundreds of theatre productions including Beauty And The Beast, West Side Story and The Witches Of Eastwick. So why has he been so keen to stay true to the stage rather than transfer to television or film?

"It's been a question of longevity. I've never been bolshy about where I am or what I'm doing. I have never thought 'Oh well, I've made it here – I should do something else'.

"I have always been working in musical theatre, so I've been lucky enough to get work that has always been right for me. I'm not one to bite the hand that feeds you.

"There is a point in the next year or so where I will make a decision on my future. I've been so lucky what I've done, but there's also not as much left for me to do. So there'll be the consideration to move in a different direction. It's difficult – I'm of a certain age, and musicals are cast a lot younger these days, so your choices are few and far between."

But of all the characters Carpenter has played, there is still one more he would love to get his teeth into.

"Miss Trunchbull in Matilda. It's an actor's role. I am an actor who sings and not the other way round, so a role like that would be very appealing."

■ **The Three Phantoms comes to Dartford's Orchard Theatre from Wednesday to Friday, May 29-31. Tickets are priced between £21 and £30; to book go online to www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or phone the box office on 01322 22000.**

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Class is permanent and the Broadstairs bar gets higher

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

Picture: TRIPADVISOR



It was some years ago that I reviewed The Bayside Brasserie in Broadstairs. I don't recall the details other than that the review – at a time in my critical career when I was perhaps rather too, well, critical – was fulsome in its praise. Much though I sometimes enjoyed sticking in the knife to below-par establishments, it was a pleasure to lose my Saturday night to a meal that proved a real delight.

So imagine my disappointment when the Bayside closed its doors for the last time, the owners setting their sights on another project.

In its place – and I don't think I've missed anything in between – came Restaurant 54, a reference, I am sharp enough to deduce, to its address of 54 Albion Street. How would it fare in comparison with what had gone before?

I won't faff around, leaving you in suspense until the final line. Quite simply, it's excellent. Plenty has been written of the new Broadstairs and its impressive range of dining choice, but Restaurant 54 is probably pick of the bunch.

From the moment we stepped inside, we felt welcome and at ease. Our waitress was friendly, enthusiastic and helpful and knew not to outstay her welcome. She even remained unflustered and cheery after a calamity with a dropped pile of plates. Full marks.

Along with marinated olives and a basket of (excellent) home-made breads, we got under way with tempura of garlic tiger prawns with a light coconut-curry dipping sauce (me) and roast butternut squash-and-thyme broth served with Parmesan croutons (companion).

The prawns were crisp and beautifully cooked, complemented superbly by the sauce, while across the table the broth was wolfed back in no time, which rather told its own happy story.

With the mains looming, a familiar tussle with my culinary conscience played out. Too often, I accept, I have been so tempted by the steak or beef option that nothing else has had much of a look-in. Here again, the char-grilled fillet of beef (at £23.95 the most expensive dish) allured, but on this occasion the pan-fried cannon of English lamb romped home for me.

It lay on crushed peas and with lamb-shoulder fritters, garlic potatoes and minted jus. Glorious!

Companion, a vegetarian, continued her adventure with pumpkin and pine-nut pie, served with char-grilled polenta and coriander cakes, roasted pimento salsa and harissa yogurt. She was thrilled with her choice.

None of the desserts, in truth, really grabbed me, although I had no complaints about the quality of my lemon tart, nor did companion about her double chocolate cheesecake.

A few issues with a fan-heater aside (double-glazing could be the answer), there's no point looking for fault in the interests of balance. Class is class, and Restaurant 54 has it in abundance. A bill (with wine and tip) of £100 for two is high, especially at this end of Kent, but justified by the quality of the experience. Go there.

Dave Mairs

■ **Restaurant 54**
54 Albion Street, Broadstairs CT10 1NF
(telephone 01843 867150;
website www.restaurant54.co.uk)

Manolis Taverna shuts after 24 years in city

AFTER almost quarter of a century in Canterbury's town centre, popular Greek restaurant Manolis Taverna has closed down.

The specialist family-run eatery has been running from the old Ben Johnson pub just off the high street since 1989, with husband-and-wife owners Manolis and Amanda at the helm.

The pair took to their website to thank customers for their support and loyalty during their time in the city – and did not rule out bringing back the restaurant in the future.

Manolis said: "Watch us on the website or on Facebook for any future activity. Manolis may decide to open elsewhere if the right premises become available."

Masterchef champ Nadia is signing up

CELEBRITY Masterchef-winner Nadia Sawalha will be signing copies of her new cook book at Waterstones Bluewater this month.

The former EastEnders actress and TV presenter has turned foodie after winning the cooking contest and has released her new book Greedy Girl's Diet.

Sawalha talks about shaving hidden calories from your diet with a little less oil here, a different cut of meat there, and why it's important to have brown rice instead of white.

There are more than 100 recipes and tips on how to diet safely and enjoyably. Meet the lady on Saturday, March 16, from midday to 1pm.

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We heard that Marchants might close if it did not find a new owner, I confess as locals we were worried, we did not want to lose our only, rather special butcher (without a doubt one of the best in Kent) so I guess I was up for a gamble….. and bought it, lock, stock and barrel (well, block, smock and chiller)!

Over the last months we have brought it up to date and increased the offering somewhat (added fresh lobster, skate, oysters and other hard to find goodies).

We now make our own pork pies and gala pies from the same free range pork we make our (Doug's) award winning sausages from, homemade steak and free range chicken pies are already being eaten along with big juicy sausage rolls and the best scotch eggs (all eggs from our own very free range chickens) you have ever eaten!

We will soon make our own artisan bread, but that's just a little way off yet, I think. We have been given the OK to sell good wine, local ales and cider.

Doug Marchant and his son (after nearly 40 years) are still making the sausages and Rob our real top end (best end?) master butcher is running the shop where you will actually see the 30 – 35 day dry aged, grass fed Scottish or local beef, hanging before you.

If the beef is ready we will be open by the 14th of February, so if you want the best Sunday roast you have ever purchased or a bottle of champagne for that Valentine's dinner now's your chance!















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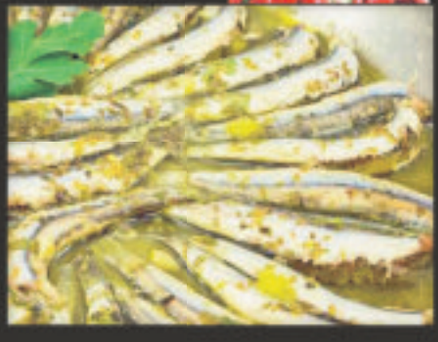




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YOUR **WEEKEND**

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To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

Photography diary is more than just a blip

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

A PHOTOGRAPHY fan from Maidstone has taken his passion to a whole new level by taking a photograph of his life every day for the past 1,000 days.

Nigel Gibson has recorded his life in Kent through a lens by sharing a daily picture on photo-blogging site Blipfoto every day for almost three years.

Nigel, who works for the Open University, said: "Capturing moments of my life is my inspiration to take a picture every day. Blip is my diary. Many of the shots won't mean anything to anyone else, but they will remind me of where I was and why."

The website has even coined a new phrase as every picture uploaded to an online journal is known as a blip, as opposed to the more traditional written entries called blogs.

Nigel said: "I use blips as a way of checking where I was on any given date and often I remember what I was doing and where I was going or coming back from.

"Some shots are deeply personal and others are there because I wanted the world to share something I'd seen. And I use blip as a way of seeing what friends around the globe are seeing and doing and enjoying their experiences and skills and stories."

Contributors to the website are now spread across more than 170 countries, and the website receives more than 17 million page-views per month.

The Maidstone man also hinted that blipping could become the new big craze.

He added: "Blipping has taught me to look at my surroundings and think about light and colours and shadows. It's also allowed me to be a member of a tremendous community where members are generous with their support and with views of the world they see.

"For anybody thinking about starting a 365 project, my advice would be to take it a day at a time and concentrate on getting a shot, any shot, so that you can then relax and look for a better one."

Visit Nigel's blip journal www.blipfoto.com/nogbad to see more of his shots from around Kent.





SNAPS: Nigel Gibson has taken a photo a day for 1,000 days, giving him a greater appreciation of his experiences and surroundings

FAB FOUR

Anchorians Rugby Club function room, Darland Avenue, Gillingham
Friday, March 15, 8.30pm
Box office: 01634 365352
Derek Nash Allstars: Jools Holland Rhythm and Blues Orchestra music man Derek Nash brings his saxophone and his band Sax Appeal to the Anchorians club. Admission £10.

Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells
Friday, March 15, 8pm
Box office: 01892 678678
Website: www.trinitytheatre.net
Sing Something Simple: New family comedy by Vanessa Brook and Dark Horse. The show is integrated, meaning it features non-learning disabled actors. Tickets £14.

Creek Creative, Faversham
Wednesday to Saturday, March 13-16
Box office: 01795 535515
Website: www.reddressproductions.co.uk
The Secret Garden: The classic story of mystery and curiosity by Frances Hodgson Burnett has been adapted by Eleanor Appleton to make an intriguing stage show. Adults £10, children £8.

Rochester Community Hub
Friday, March 8, 7.30pm
Box office: 01634 337411
Email: rochester.library@medway.gov.uk
Scarlett Thomas: Known for her witty and rebellious writing style, Scarlett Thomas will be sharing her experiences and signing copies of her book to mark International Women's Day. Free.

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ENLIGHTENING: Flash are coming to Dartford

It's a kind of magic as Flash re-create Queen

GET ready to rock as tribute act Flash entertain crowds with some of Queen's greatest hits.

Flash have been paying homage to the world's most theatrical rock band since 1995, performing to audiences across the UK, Europe and Asia.

Frontman Scott Maley plays an uncannily realistic Freddie with the right stage persona and, as importantly, the most incredible voice.

His natural resemblance to Freddie has helped Flash re-create the whole Queen live experience, which includes, of course, fantastic concert versions of the songs.

Maley is joined on stage by an enormously talented band, including Nathan Mathers, who brings all the electric-guitar virtuosity required to play a very convincing Brian May.

Flash will perform at The Orchard Theatre, Dartford, on Wednesday, March 6, at 8pm. Tickets are priced at £19.50 plus a per-ticket booking fee. For more details, you can phone the box office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

Feed Mum's wildest desires this Mother's Day at Port Lympne

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

MUMS can go wild this Mother's Day as Port Lympne Wild Animal Park will open its mansion and gardens, which are not usually open to the public.

Families can enjoy a three-course meal in the 100-year-old building as well as tour the beautiful gardens.

Visitors can work up an appetite by taking a safari to view the new-born African painted puppies in their enclosure on the African Experience and watch other wildlife as they roam across 100 acres of Kentish savannah.

Later, stroll around the rest of the park to see western lowland gorillas, Barbary lions, tigers, elephants and black rhinos.

Sam Lloyd, from the park, said: "At this time of year the park is a lovely place to spend the day, seeing some of our wild mums and their babies.

"We have wonderful, far-reaching views over the Kent countryside, so start the day with a safari and a stroll and then join us in the mansion for a mouthwatering meal."

Dishes on offer include walnut-and-blue-cheese salad, roasted tomato soup or a crown of asparagus wrapped in filo pastry and Parma ham to start, followed by a choice of chicken with a wild mushroom sauce, potato and Parmesan tart and curried leg of Kentish lamb with braised onions and rosemary potatoes.

There is a choice of desserts, including chocolate and hazelnut delice, sticky-toffee pudding and a glazed lemon tart, to provide the perfect finish to the meal.

Sam said: "Our new chef has created some wonderful dishes for Mother's Day this year and our resident pianist will be accompanying the meal with some classical music played on our rare baby grand piano."

Prices start at £29.95 for adult Port Lympne passport-holders and £15 for children or £35 for non-passport-holders and £17 for children.

Non-passport-holders need to pay for admission to the park and a non-refundable deposit of £10 per person is required to secure bookings as space is limited.

■ **For further information, and to reserve a table, phone 0844 842 4647 or email info@aspinallfoundation.org.**



SO CUTE: See Port Lympne's baby gorillas this Mother's Day

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High-speed trains will stop at War and Peace

HIGH-SPEED trains from London are to stop at Westenhanger station for the weekend of The War and Peace Revival, the world's largest military-vehicle event.

Folkestone Racecourse is the location for the event, which runs from Wednesday to Sunday, July 17-21.

The journey from London St Pancras to Westenhanger will be about 45 minutes.

Rex Cadman, event spokesman, said: "We're really excited that Southeastern has given this support to War and Peace. With the mainline rail station right next door, it is excellent to be working with our local rail-operator. We're hoping we can encourage more visitors to the War and Peace Revival to travel by train."

Described as "the greatest gathering of military vehicles on the planet", the show will feature its traditional gathering of battle vehicles from around the world.

Tickets for the event are available now, with a 20 per cent discount until Monday, April 8. Tickets are £14.80 for adults, £13.20 for children and £48 for a family.

Visit www.thewarandpeacerevival.co.uk.

High-flying airshow set for a welcome return to isle

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

THE skies over Thanet will be alive to the sound of aircraft this summer with the return of the South East Airshow at Manston Airport for the first time in 20 years.

The show will host some of the world's greatest modern and historic aircraft, acrobatic aerial displays and interactive attractions for all the family.

The iconic Vulcan delta-wing aircraft will be among the highlights, while a Typhoon aircraft simulator, helicopter flights and a fun-fair will provide visitors with a great day out.

Chris Yates, from Heritage Events, said: "We are delighted to bring this airshow back to Kent after some absence.

"It was always a very popular show, running since the Second World War, with audiences peaking in excess of 80,000. Some of the teams displayed in the past include the Red Arrows, the F111s, the A10s and even Concorde."



SOARING: A10s are just one of the many aircraft to have appeared at the popular airshow

Local interest will be provided by a craft fair, business stands, Second World War re-enactment and a host of vintage cars and motorcycles.

Kent's Air Training Corps will also be there setting up their own camp; they also hope to bring along one of their gliders. There will be an Education Day on the Friday, when schools will be invited to see some of the aircraft and meet the people behind them to explore career aspirations.

Organiser Angela Sutton said: "It is brilliant to see the show return to Manston after such a long absence. We are all so grateful to Charles Buchanan of Manston Airport and his team for hosting what I know will be a stunning event.

"Those old enough to remember the previous shows will, I am sure, be delighted to have the opportunity once again to come to the airport and see some of the world's greatest modern and historic aircraft perform. While there are displays in the sky, the stands and displays on the ground will provide a fun-filled and exciting day out."

The South East Airshow at Manston Airport takes place on Saturday, June 22.

Adults tickets are £8, child and senior citizen tickets £6, and a family ticket for two adults and two children is £22. Visit www.heritageevents.co.uk or call 08456 526263.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford
Friday, March 8, 7.30pm
Box office: 01322 220000
Website: www.orchardtheatre.co.uk
The Illegal Eagles: Frontman Garreth Hicklin re-creates the vocals of Don Henley to ensure you enjoy such hits as Hotel Californiaand Take It To The Limit. Tickets £21.50-23.50.

The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury
Saturday, March 23, 7.30pm
Box office: 01227 787 787
Website:www.marlowetheatre.com
Tony Law: For loud and ridiculous comedy, see Tony Law and his new show Maximum Nonsense. Nominated for the Edinburgh Comedy Award 2012. Tickets £11.

Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells
Tuesday, March 5, 7.30pm
Box office: 01892 530 613
Website: www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk
Russian Cossacks: Hundreds of costumes, 40 world-class performers and 1,000 litres of vodka can only mean one thing... the Russian State Dance Ensemble is back. Tickets: £18.50.

The Stag, Sevenoaks
Thursday, March 7
Box office: 01732 450175
Website: www.stagsevenoaks.co.uk
Comedy: The Outside The Box comedy show returns to The Stag this month, with host Maff Brown leading the show, along with stand-ups Bob Mills and James Mullinger. Tickets £15.

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11th to 15th March 2013

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Proud to support National Apprenticeship Week 2013

National Apprenticeship Week

March 11-15, 2013

YOUNG people learning a trade come under the spotlight later this month in National Apprenticeship Week, an event coordinated by the National Apprenticeship Service that celebrates apprenticeships and the positive impact that they have.

Now in its sixth year, the week is the time all eyes are on apprenticeships – it's all about raising the profile among employers, individuals, teachers, parents and the media.

Everyone with an interest in apprenticeships across England is encouraged to get involved in the week, with the theme for this year Apprenticeships Deliver.

Organisers will be visiting apprentices to take photographs, hold interviews and write case studies. Keep an eye on the twitter feed for #NAW2013 to see how young people are meeting the challenges of the workplace and helping businesses grow.

The organisers say they want to hear from those working in apprenticeships and will be posting messages and stories online and via social media.

The week is being broken down into the following categories:

Monday, March 11: Proud

To start the week, the organisers say they would like to unite with all of their partners and friends by asking them to support apprenticeships and the week and be proud. Messages can be posted on Facebook or Twitter as follows: Proud to be a supporter of @Apprenticeships because xxxxx #NAW2013. Organisers will share and retweet favourite messages, but entrants should use #NAW2013!

Tuesday, March 11: Growth

A look back at the stars of 2012's New Era campaign to see where those who took part are now, one year on. Partners are welcome to submit links to any videos of young people talking about their apprenticeship journey and showing the progression they have made to add to the playlist for the week. To submit content for this campaign, emailtheweek@apprenticeships.gov.uk, tweet quotes using #NAW2013 or add them to the apprenticeships Facebook page.

Wednesday, March 13: Choice

This is not only about showcasing the choice of apprenticeships on offer but why businesses and young people choose them. Post your messages on Facebook or Twitter as follows: I/we chose @Apprenticeships because xxxxx #NAW2013.

Thursday, March 14: Hall of Fame

The organisers want to know if the managing director or chief executive of any of the apprenticeship employers with whom you work started their career as an apprentice. Or do you know an award-winning former apprentice whose career has gone on to flourish? Or even a celebrity who started out as an apprentice?

If so, they could be ideal candidates for the online Apprenticeships Hall of Fame, which showcases the rise and accomplishments of England's most successful apprentices. A short biography and good-quality photo of the nominated individual are all that's required.

Entrants should just add them to the template form and email them to theweek@apprenticeships.gov.uk, tweet about them using #NAW2013 or add comments to the Apprenticeship Facebook page.

Friday, March 15: Apprenticeships Deliver

NAS is collating material (quotes, case studies and video footage) from apprenticeship employers and apprentices to explain why apprenticeships deliver. These will be showcased on apprenticeships.org.uk and Apprenticeship social-media channels.

To submit content, complete the template form and email totheweek@apprenticeships.gov.uk and/or tweet any quotes using #NAW2013 or add them to the Apprenticeships Facebook page.



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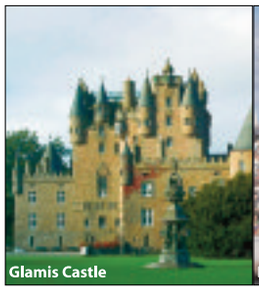
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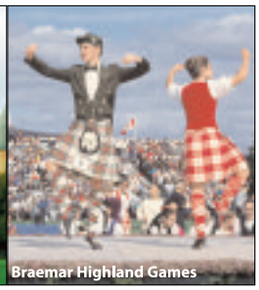
7 June & 5 Sept, 2013

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A ride on the Strathspey Steam Railway will take us away from the bustle of everyday life, through some of the most gorgeous highland scenery.

The Trossachs are where the Highlands and Lowlands meet. Here, charming Loch Katrine is truly one of Scotland's special places. Just as special as the magnificent scenery is the famous steamship – the Sir Walter Scott - which has been a landmark in the area for over 100 years. A cruise on this wonderful ship or on 'Lady of the Lake', is also included.


Glamis Castle


Braemar Highland Games


Strathspey Steam Railway

Further east, in the Royal Deeside area, we'll discover Glamis Castle - the Queen Mother's former home and a stunning architectural treasure that is full of vitality to this day (this visit only available on June tour).

In September we visit the Braemar Highland Games, the best celebration of Highlands tradition & sporting endeavour attended by members of the Royal Family.

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
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- 5 nights half-board hotel stay in Pitlochry
- Coach travel & touring in Scotland
- Loch Katrine Cruise
- Strathspey Railway ride
- Entry to Glamis Castle or Braemar Highland Games

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Rovinj


Mali Losinj

Losinj Island is an undiscovered holiday delight combining beach culture and mountains with pine forests and floral landscapes.

In September in Treviso there is an option to stay a 2nd night with a visit to Venice including water-taxi transfers and guided walking tour.

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout abroad
- 2 nights half-board in Rovinj
- 5 nights half-board in Mali Losinj
- 1 night half-board in Treviso
- Return flights to Venice from Gatwick Airport
- Transfers & ferry crossings abroad



Back to the 50s & 60s Spring Seaside Party

Pontins Pakefield, Suffolk Coast

Self-Drive - over 40s only

3 nights, half board + 99p Bar

£119pp

Quote PF5-KOS

Friday 31 May, 2013

Join us as we celebrate the post war and baby boomer decades - for over 40s only - at Pontins Pakefield. Enjoy a 99p Bar every night, and great variety entertainment including 50s & 60s tribute bands, a fancy dress party and a host of nostalgic fun from quizzes to films. The Good News team and Pontins famous Bluecoats will be on hand to ensure everyone has a great time.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers

- Full entertainment programme
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation
- 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners



Mamma Mia & Super 70s Summer Seaside Party

Pontins Pakefield, Suffolk Coast

Self-Drive - over 40s only - 3 nights, half board + 99p Bar

£119pp **Quote MM6-KOS**

Friday 28 June, 2013

We're taking a trip down memory lane - for over 40s only - at Pontins Pakefield. Enjoy a 99p Bar every night, and great variety entertainment including a Mamma Mia movie screening, Abba and 70s tribute bands, fancy dress party and a host of nostalgic fun from quizzes to films. The Good News team and Pontins famous Bluecoats will be on hand to ensure everyone has a great time.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers

- Full entertainment programme
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation
- 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

Pontins Pakefield Holiday Village is situated on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. There's a choice of bars and eateries, an indoor swimming pool, snooker, pool, darts, short mat bowls, 9-hole pitch & putt, tennis court and more. All chalets have TV, tea/coffee making facilities, heating, double glazing, en suite bath/shower and toilet, bed linen and towels.



Mamma Mia Christmas Party

For over 40s only

Warner Norton Grange, Isle of Wight

Self drive, 3 nights, half board PLUS Free Bar

£219pp

Quote NO11-KOS

Friday 29 November, 2013

Our annual Norton Grange Christmas party is all set. There'll be the familiar mix of fun and festivities, a free bar 'til midnight every night, great food and entertainment. This year we're adding the super sounds of Mamma Mia - Abba's classic soundtrack for all seasons. As well as the usual line-up of cabaret-style entertainment you will enjoy an Abba tribute band playing live and a screening of the Mamma Mia movie.

INCLUDED: Free Bar from 6pm to midnight every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers

- Full Entertainment programme
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation - upgrades available
- Free car ferry crossing worth £45

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GDP figures spark wave of optimism

THE most recent Gross Domestic Product figures for Britain have been revised upwards for the full year of 2012, with the figure being upgraded from from zero per cent growth to 0.3 per cent.

Businesses have greeted the news with approval, saying it is a sign that the UK is heading towards growth, albeit slowly.

Firms are now calling on the Government to use the coming Budget to further boost prospects, however small they are.

Roger House, chairman of the Federation of Small Businesses in Kent and Medway, said: "This latest revision to the full-year GDP figure is good news for Kent's small businesses and the FSB believes today's announcement indicates further tentative signs of the optimism reported by members in our autumn Kent Small Business Barometer.

"FSB Kent now wants the Government to use next month's Budget to keep up that momentum.

"There is no doubt that small businesses in the county want to grow and invest and the Chancellor must look at ways to open up access to finance, for example increase lending competition and outline a roadmap for the business bank.

"He should also look at overseas markets for first-time exporters to encourage more small businesses in Kent and Medway to see this as an opportunity to grow."

... but it's not all good

THE number of high-street stores closing their doors for good is rising fast, according to new research.

Figures from the analyst group Local Data Centre have found that over the last 12 months an average of 20 shops closed every day across the UK.

Retailers selling computer games, health foods and cards were among the hardest hit, making up a large percentage of 7,337 closures in 2012.

Last year saw the end of retailers such as JJB Sports, Peacocks and Comet, with the South East seeing the highest number of store closures.

On the up side, however, there has been an increase in independent stores opening across the country.



If you have a business story, **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. Telephone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk** Follow us on Twitter @KOSbusiness

Stock Exchange launch turns focus to the east

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE "heart of global capitalism" welcomed east Kent this week as the county's politicians and business leaders stepped up a campaign to attract investment into commerce in Thanet, Dover, Shepway and Canterbury.

London Stock Exchange was the setting for the formal launch of the Grow For It campaign, aimed at boosting business and creating jobs.

Spearheaded by Kent County Council, it runs alongside the Government's Regional Growth Fund (RGF), which has pledged £35 million in loans for east Kent companies to create 5,000 new jobs.

KCC leader Paul Carter said: "We are in the heart of global capitalism to share the best-kept secret in the South East, possibly in England. We need to unlock east Kent's potential."

He pointed to the heritage of the coastal area, which enjoyed boom times in the Victorian period as the railway expanded.

Cllr Carter said he was also in the City to "bust a few myths" about the area, including its accessibility.

He emphasised the impact of high-speed trains, with journey times of less than an hour between London and Folkestone; the fact that rents can be a tenth of London prices; and the skilled workforce.

"We have a proud heritage set in glorious countryside," Cllr Carter said. "I believe the rest of the world has not woken up to the opportunities of Kent, with its proximity to Europe and the City of London.

"From far-flung London boroughs, it takes longer to get to the City than it does from Folkestone."



EYES LEFT: Michael Fallon MP, right, was keynote speaker at the launch event

■ Dragon's Den star and business guru Doug Richards is one of the main ambassadors of the Grow For It campaign.

The founder of the School for Start Ups, from Los Angeles, told the event that businesses needed to think differently.

"It shouldn't be about owning things, property and employing large numbers of people," he said. "Businesses can grow by adding outsources. The focus should be on optimising."

He said SMEs played a vital role in the economic well-being of a society because without access to large cash reserves they were forced to be viable and live within their means.

Minister for Business and Enterprise Michael Fallon, who represents Sevenoaks, was also at the event. He said local businesses were "better placed than I am" to know what was needed to boost the economy but emphasised that firms looking to grow could apply for the interest-free RGF loans.

He praised firms such as Hythe's HV Wooding, which had already gained access to funding, saying the business was at the cutting edge of technology with its work for the Hadron Large Collider. He also talked about north Kent company Aeromet, which is developing new aluminum alloys.

"By supporting advanced manufacturing, the RGF creates jobs and attracts funding," the minister said. "It allows Kent to take charge of its economic future and support its goal to create the most enterprising economy in the UK."

Folkestone and Hythe MP Damian Collins chaired a panel whose members told how they had found working in east Kent, utilising RGF Funds. Access to funding, transport links and quality of life were all cited as positive reasons to invest.

Campaign grows all over London

AN advertising campaign aimed at attracting London companies to Kent has been launched.

Slogans such as 'Start your own Canterbury tale' and 'Swap your oyster for oysters' are emblazoned across London buses.

There are now 48 panels on Tube escalators talking up opportunities for companies to relocate to east Kent and 75 buses have the adverts on their sides.

There have also been advertisements placed at mainline railway stations.

MPs from across the region were at the meeting on Wednesday, which marked the formal start of the drive to bring investment into the county.

Laura Sandys, Thanet South MP, said she felt her constituency had much to offer incoming companies. She chaired a panel discussing what bio-technology industries could gain by locating in the county.

Simon Westbrook, chief executive of Tetrad Biotechnology, is a former employee of Pfizer and his company is now based at Discovery Park, Sandwich.

He said the facilities in place meant Kent could successfully compete with traditional cutting-edge commerce cities such as Oxford and Cambridge.

"We have the equipment which has been left at the site and the start-up money is in place," he said. "Sandwich was a world-class research-and-development centre and it can be again."

Ms Sandys said: "There is a sense of passion for Discovery Park that collectively everyone wants to make this work."

State-of-the-art facilities available at a fraction of the price

THE world-class facilities at Discovery Park, Sandwich, which used to be the home of Pfizer, were a big factor in east Kent's appeal, the meeting heard.

When the pharmaceutical multinational massively reduced its activities in the area, it left a gaping hole in the local economy but also left behind much of its cutting-edge scientific facilities.

Paul Barber is manager of the site, which now houses 22 companies, employing 1,000 people. He said: "The sheer quality of the space we have is shown by the fact that when visiting professors walk around our labs their jaws drop.

"These facilities are available at a fraction of what they once cost to build."

David Waite, of UK company Mylan, one of the largest pharmaceutical businesses in the world, said his business had chosen to open a UK facility at the park for three reasons.

"Firstly, the people are of very high quality, based on the legacy of Pfizer," he said. "Then there are the top-class research-and-development facilities. Also the favourable support we have had from regional and local government."

After the event, Kent County Council's Mark Dance said the county was looking across the globe to develop business.

"It's not only London we're looking at," he said. "We're looking worldwide and want to get foreign investment from North America and Europe."

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Cathedral offers inspiring access to support designers' education



CATHEDRAL: Inspirational

STUDENTS from the school of architecture at the University for the Creative Arts have been given unique access to Canterbury Cathedral to learn more about the design and structure of the world-famous building.

Interior architecture and design course leader, Lara Rettondini, said: "We have one of the best examples of architecture in the world on our doorstep that will really benefit our students.

"We are using the cathedral as a learning tool – surveying and drawing it helps develop the skills needed to design very complex, detailed buildings and allows us to teach students the history of architecture at the same time."

Temporary exhibitions of the students' work have started to go on display.

An exhibition of technical drawings is planned for later in the year.

Creative student starts path to future in fashion

A TUNBRIDGE Wells fashion student has been awarded a prestigious industry scholarship to study at GCU London courtesy of top fashion brand AllSaints.

Nathaniel Lowe, 26, won a place on the MSc international fashion marketing course at the university's Spitalfields campus in the East End.

He was one of just seven to be awarded the sought-after scholarship. In the future, he plans to work for a major fashion brand.

It's a ropey business for one university volunteer

A UNIVERSITY of Kent business student has started work as a volunteer at a ropemakers at Chatham's Historic Dockyard to help boost the firm's marketing.

Vanessa Spencer, 21, who is working at Master Ropemakers Ltd, is one of 45 volunteers who give their time freely to work at charities, not-for-profit organisations and small businesses in Medway.

Last year, the university's Medway students did 5,000 hours of volunteering.

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VISION: KCC plans to inject renewed optimism into an age group emerging into the world of work

Cabinet unveils scheme to boost youth job hopes

COUNTY Hall chiefs unveiled a three-year vision this week to bring education, training, apprenticeships and employers together to help boost the learning and employment prospects of 14 to 24-year-olds.

At a meeting on Monday, Kent County Council's cabinet outlined a strategy to help boost the prospects of thousands of the county's young.

It approved the '14-24 Learning, Employment and Skills Strategy' which, it says, marks the latest stage in KCC's ongoing work to make sure every young person in Kent gets the best start in life and is able to aim for the career they would choose, backed by the right learning and support.

It follows the Kent Jobs for Young People campaign – another council push to ease the passageway from education into employment.

The key priorities to form the backbone of the new scheme are to raise attainment and skill levels, improve vocational education, training and apprenticeships, increase participation and employment, and to target support to vulnerable young people.

Mike Whiting, KCC cabinet member for education, learning and skills, said: "As the requirement for young people to remain in education, training or work with training until their 18th birthday is introduced, it is important that we pull together all the various strands of work and partners across the county.

"This new strategy explains how we will do that, aligning all the different activities, actions and offers that will help change young people's lives.

"It is important to do this so that young people find it as straightforward as possible to get the help they need and achieve their potential. What we are doing will mean that young people will know about, and have a wider range of options for, their learning and training – with more help into apprenticeships and employment.

"The county council already does a lot of work to increase the number of young people onto apprenticeships – so far there are 10,000 apprentices in Kent – and takes very seriously its responsibility to help young people reach their potential while they are at school, college or a training provider.

"We are taking this opportunity to develop a better system of vocational education and training in Kent and to improve the support for vulnerable young people to get better qualifications and increase their employment prospects."

As an employer, KCC's own apprenticeship programme has, in the last 12 months, created 84 placements, and for vulnerable learners there have been 69 placements.

A Kent County County spokeman confirmed a new Employment, Learning and Skills Partnership Board will also be set up to ensure all the key partners, including employers, work together effectively in helping Kent's 14 to 24-year-olds to turn their aspirations into reality.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

Get a taste of college life at open day

NORTH West Kent College is hosting an open day next week at its redeveloped campuses in Dartford and Gravesend.

Visitors will get the chance to have a go at various activities relating to courses on offer at the college's two campuses as well as speak to staff and students.

The college says it offers a more adult learning environment compared to schools and focuses on providing a practical education, giving students the skills they need for future careers.

New courses are being offered at the Dartford and Gravesend campuses, including plumbing, brickwork and carpentry, a creative media games course and web design and development.

The open day is being held on Tuesday, March 5, from 3.30-8.30pm.

Principal David Gleed said: "Don't just arrange to come and talk to our staff, arrange to come and talk to our students too and find out why they chose North West Kent College.

"Our students are our best ambassadors and their success is our greatest achievement."

For more information about courses available visit www.nwkcollege.ac.uk or call the college on 0800 074 1447.

Ferry operators speak out against Eurotunnel's bid for French ports

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

CROSS-CHANNEL travel companies opposed to Eurotunnel's bid to buy the ports of Calais and Boulogne say they fear the company could downgrade French facilities to reduce the appeal of ferry travel and make the Tunnel the most attractive option.

Eurotunnel is set to launch a formal submission to take control of the French facilities next month when a new 50-year concession opens for bidding.

The move comes just a week after the Competition Commission said it was not in favour of Eurotunnel's bid to run its own ferry operations – and would recommend to regulatory bodies that any such proposition was rejected.

Such a plan would put the rail company in direct competition with P&O and DFDS and would have been in addition to the 40 per cent market share it has already built up by running its Le Shuttle trains through the Channel Tunnel.

In a letter to the Office of Fair Trading, P&O chief executive Helen Deeble said: "There is a risk Eurotunnel will have incentives to reduce the appeal of ferry services by degrading the quality of port facilities. A key element of the appeal relates to the length of queuing times and the availability of facilities at the ports.

"There is no doubt that Eurotunnel will have some obligations under the concession agreement at Calais and Boulogne. However, there is an inherent conflict of interest between Eurotunnel's interests and those of the operators which are amplified by the fact Eurotunnel controls its own rail/shuttle infrastructure.

"In short, an independent port-operator would have much greater interests in attracting traffic to the ports away from Eurotunnel."

The ferry companies also say they are concerned that their rival could raise port charges, leading to increased fares, so driving traffic on to rail rather than ship.

The Channel Tunnel operator says, however, that it just wants to diversify and expand its business interests.

"It would be the same as what we have been doing in the Tunnel for the last 18 years," said a spokesman. "It is our core business. The ports have been run by the local chamber of commerce. We would bring a fresh look, we would bring innovation, we would bring dynamism. It is not as if we are doing anything out of the ordinary. We are already based in Calais."







MONOPOLY? P&O's Helen Deeble has written to the Office of Fair Trading as the firm is concerned that Eurotunnel would have too much control over cross-Channel transport if the bid is approved

Both French ports are run by the Cote d'Opale Chamber of Commerce, which is believed to be preparing a bid to continue its operations.

But they are owned by the Nord Pas de Calais Regional Council, which has authority to pick a preferred bidder.

It is in the process of drawing up investment plans for an upgrade to facilities that would turn the port and its surrounding area into a massive staging post and parking area for vehicle traffic to and from the UK – significantly ahead of anything that Dover could offer.

This €500 million project is in an area of relatively high unemployment in France, where the main industry is concerned with the cross-Channel trade.

Ms Deeble, who is also the current president of the UK Chamber of Shipping, said a successful Eurotunnel bid would amount to a "relevant merger" within the Enterprise Act 2002, providing grounds for the OFT to investigate.

P&O Ferries, owned by Dubai World, also claims that the ports of Calais and Boulogne "would cease to be distinct from Eurotunnel" and that £70m of UK-derived turnover would be acquired by Eurotunnel.

As a result, said P&O Ferries, "more than 25 per cent of France-based French sea-port services for ex-UK ferry traffic is or will be provided by a single entity, Eurotunnel."

Ten tips to help firms meet their VAT payments



EXPERT ADVICE: Martin Dane of DSH Chartered Accountants

BUSINESSES with cashflow problems can have trouble meeting VAT commitments, leading to further financial problems and possible legal action, warns a Maidstone accountancy company.

Business advisers at DSH Chartered Accountants are providing companies with a guide that aims to minimise the impact of being unable to make VAT payments to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

Tax expert Martin Dane said: "We have found that businesses hit by even a relatively small, temporary cash-flow hiccup can find themselves in a situation where they cannot pay their VAT on time.

"This can lead to a spiral of debt [and] interest and incur a number of penalties and surcharges, which all too often result in insolvency.

"Our simple list can help these businesses stay on the right side of the taxman during this difficult time and give them the opportunity to get their finances back in order."

The advice is as follows.

- Don't hold back from submitting VAT returns if you do not have the money to settle them. This will only result in racking up default surcharges and HMRC's guesswork assessments, both of which are legally enforceable.
- Do submit your returns when they become due and immediately negotiate with HMRC's debt-management unit for time to pay.
- Paying the VAT but not paying Employers' NI or Corporation Tax is not an option.
- Get in touch with HMRC's debt-management unit, explain the problem and negotiate payment terms for all current and upcoming tax liabilities.
- Don't issue spurious credit notes or cross-charges to reduce VAT liabilities. HMRC takes a very dim view of this.
- Continue to account for VAT in the proper manner, even if you can't pay it. That will ensure your negotiations with HMRC are based on an accurate liability and there is nothing hidden that will cause damage when it comes to light
- Don't over-stretch your budget in negotiating a time-to-pay arrangement with HMRC. The worst outcome is agreeing time-to-pay with HMRC but not sticking to it.
- Take time to prepare a detailed and realistic forecast, suitable for presentation to HMRC, on which to base your payment proposal.
- Don't assume that you can let things slide because it will take HMRC ages to catch up with you.
- Contact HMRC as soon as there's a hint of a problem. HMRC acts quickly to pursue and enforce VAT and tax debts.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Bovis defies gloom with hike in profits

HOUSEBUILDER Bovis Homes Group has recorded positive figures for the last year. The company said its pre-tax profits had increased by 69 per cent despite the tough economic conditions across the property market last year.

The business, based in New Ash Green, reported that annual profits before tax went up from £36.4 million to £54.1m. Sales revenue increased 17 per cent to £424.5m.

Aeromet bags £1m from growth fund

A COMPANY based in Sittingbourne and Rochester has secured more than £1 million from the Government's Regional Growth Fund.

Aeromet, which produces aluminium castings for the aerospace industry, will use the funding for a research-and-development project to exploit new technologies for its patented aluminium alloy A20X. The investment is expected to create up to 38 jobs.

Port of Dover is a safe haven... it's official

THE Port of Dover has achieved the internationally-recognised standard for occupational health and safety.

Following a very positive assessment, the port did not register a single non-conformance, while various aspects of its safety culture were highlighted for particular mention, including the areas of emergency response, fire risk, insight and management oversight.

Apprentice event will have focus on training

KENT Science Park and Mid Kent College are hosting an event on Thursday, March 14, to show companies how taking on an apprentice could benefit their business; the focus will be on training and recruitment needs.

They will also be able to discuss the financial help on offer, including fully-funded training for 16- to 18-year-old apprentices and co-funding for those aged 19-plus.

Employment project a star of the region

A COUNCIL initiative has been named as one of the best in Europe for helping get people back to work.The Medway Council-led project SUCCES was one of 27 short-listed for a Regiostars award, run by the European Commission.

The awards identify good practice in regional development and highlight original and innovative projects that could be inspiring to other areas.

Kerching! Asda staff are in the money

STAFF at Asda stores and depots are set to share in a bonus pay-out of more than £1,174,000.

The pay-out will see full-time staff receive a bonus of up to £255.15. However, those at Asda Sittingbourne, Asda Living Maidstone, Asda Tunbridge Wells and Asda Gillingham have exceeded their annual target and will be rewarded with a "superbonus" of up to £437.50.

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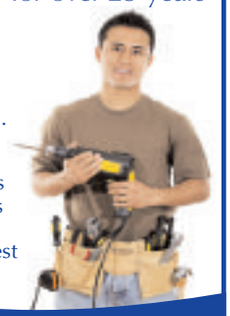
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Paceman gets tough on streets

IT'S an ill wind that doesn't blow somebody some good, and recent icy blasts have wrought havoc with our roads.

The 'good' here is that marketing nonsense about urban SUVs and crossovers "cruising and conquering the mean streets" can now be justified – a little – by potholes and collapsed edges waiting to ambush conventional cars.

Mini, for instance, uses the blurb "cutting a swathe through the urban jungle" to describe the powers of its new Paceman SUV coupé, a sort of junior Range Rover Evoque that goes on sale from Saturday, March 16, priced from £18,970.

The newcomer is Mini brand extension No7 – a number where luck can cut both ways – but it should do OK as it shares the high-riding butch looks, on-road footprint and choice of front-wheel- or all-wheel-drive of its parent, the Countryman.

But it's a lot more stylish and though I've quoted the sharp-suited Citroën DS4 as a possible rival, with the Evoque another contender – for a lot more cash – it's hard to pigeonhole the Paceman, and that will be its biggest asset. In keeping with its coupé label, Mini has given the car a sporty lowered suspension, though buyers needing the Countryman's higher stance and limited off-road ability can have that as a no-cost option.

Unusually, while it shares the Mini corporate look, the brand also seems to have made the Paceman more individual than its siblings.

On the outside, there is a distinctive rear end with bespoke lighting, while the inside is a strict four-seater, with individual chairs in the back plus generous armrests. These fold to expand the 330-litre boot into a 1,080-litre load space, all accessed by a large and practical high-opening tailgate.

Mini is making much of the car's handling while offering a good view out for the driver, appealing to those who like the commanding position of SUVs and people-carriers but are tiring of the wallowing gait that is the norm.

The interior is a work of art in the true Mini fashion, though the cabin fashionistas have tweaked the trademark large round central speedo while – horror or horrors – moving the electric-window switches to the door trims, having previously been toggle switches below that speedo to evoke the original 1960s Mini.

As this brings the Paceman in line with most other cars, we now wonder whether this bold step will be introduced on other Mini models.

Two petrol and two diesel engines are offered at launch, with the 184bhp 1.6-litre Mini Cooper S Paceman the performance flagship: 0-62mph in 7.5 seconds, with combined fuel economy of 46.3mpg and 143g/km emissions.

All versions come with the brand's Minimalism environmental systems as standard, including auto start/stop and battery recharging from recovery of braking energy.





READY TO GO: The Mini Paceman is prepared to face all the potholes our roads can throw at it, but beware the price once you start choosing options

DON'T LIKE

... the price. Yes, Minis sell as premium cars, but price can escalate fast as buyers customise their car to their own tastes and foibles.

NOT SURE

... yet another Mini more or less the same size takes us much further, but the brand keeps posting production records, so what do I know?

REALLY LIKE

... the looks. The Mini Coupe's styling is awful, but the Paceman looks fit for 'rumbles in the urban jungle'. Oh dear, I've caught it now...

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Even more designs on latest Volvo

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

VOLVO started the premium hatchback game back in 1972 with its 1800ES sports model.

The car's glass tailgate has since become a trademark for the Swedish marque, reprised on the 1980s 480 sporting estate, and currently on the C30 coupé hatch.

So, while the German premium brands make much of their new hatchbacks – though carefully avoiding the use of that 'blue collar' term – it's worth remembering who started the trend.

And Volvo has made an even greater impact with the V40 five-door hatchback (from £19,995) launched last year; it doesn't have the glass tailgate of its sporting predecessors but a more conventional and practical one to go with its 'v' for versatile model prefix.

Everything else about the V40, though, says sporty, thanks to a low-slung coupé-style body, recently enhanced by the offer of two additional and familiar flagship trims: R-Design (from £22,295) for a restrained performance look courtesy of restyled bumpers and extra-smart alloys, and Cross-Country (from £22,595) for the sporty off-roader image.

I reckon both add to the V40's attractions, for not a lot more money, though the Cross Country's 'rough, tough' styling add-ons should not be mistaken for genuine off-road ability – it retains the standard V40 front-wheel-drive.

However, our D3 R-Design Lux (£25,295) test car could 'walk the talk' a bit with its 148bhp five-cylinder 2.0-litre diesel and the R-Design 'dynamic chassis', and there is also the option to go further and specify an even more responsive Sports chassis. While there are more powerful engines available – the D3 version delivers 0-62mph in 9.6 seconds – there is a pleasingly sporty beat to the unit and the car's set-up is rewarding on winding roads.

I was also reminded what a good cruising car the V40 is; the D3 version is refined in sixth gear and has an impressive official combined-cycle fuel consumption of 65.7mpg.

For those who really want to economise, though, check out the new D2 four-cylinder diesel we tested in the V40 last year. It's extremely tax-efficient for company-car user-choosers and limbos beneath the 100g/km CO_2 emissions bar to escape road tax and London Congestion Charging, while its official combined-cycle economy figure is almost 80mpg – a worthy standard-bearer for Volvo's DRIVe eco sub-brand.

But don't check it out simply on those grounds; the V40 is a truly handsome alternative to those German rivals: the awkward-looking BMW 1 Series, the reserved Audi A3 and the admittedly equally sharp-suited new Mercedes-Benz A-Class.

The Swedes, as ever, have also given the V40 a uniquely Scandinavian interior that is stylish, durable and well arranged. While neat and uncluttered, there is plenty of stowage space and, of course, Volvo's now-trademark 'flying centre console', offering an extra refuge for cabin clutter behind it. R-Design also brings some extra styling touches, including sportier seats and even an illuminated gear-knob – though I don't think anyone will wonder how they ever got along without one.

Admittedly, you might expect that the V40's sweeping rear end is its Achilles Heel on the practicality front, but leg and headroom is sufficient and load space competitive with obvious rivals: 335 litres with rear seats upright and 1,032 litres when folded.

This is also one of the safest cars on the road; the V40 posted the highest-ever score in the Euro NCAP safety test, which translates into low insurance and high reassurance.

So, if you want to downsize and retain comfort, image and space, then the V40 ought to be in your sights.

VOLVO V40 D3 R-DESIGN LUX: £25,295



SAFE AND STYLISH: The V40 has achieved the highest-ever Euro NCAP safety test score while also looking like a car you'd want to really drive

FACT FILE

Driving appeal:	★★★★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
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MOTORING NEWS



Octavia's big load-lugger

SKODA'S third-generation Octavia hatchback is arriving now and the estate comes soon afterwards, offering far more space than before.

The newcomer is 90mm longer and 45mm wider than its predecessor, but the extra 110mm of wheelbase is the significant measurement, translating into more rear legroom, plus a big 610-litre boot and 1,740-litre load space with rear seats folded.



Ultimate Clio is the next up

RENAULT'S sharp-looking new Clio has just arrived, but order books don't open until April for the ultimate version – the Renaultsport 200 Turbo hot-hatch.

Due on UK roads in June, this is the glamour variant that lifts Clio sales by another notch and it's lighter this time, with even more low-down pulling power and a faster 0-62mph time (6.7 seconds).



New-look C3 petrol offer

CITROËN has unveiled a radically-revamped C3 five-door supermini with new-look interior and cutting-edge powertrains, due mid year.

The engines offer CO_2 emissions as low as 87g/km, with the option of new PureTech three-cylinder petrol units, delivering up to 15 per cent more power with a 25 per cent reduction in fuel consumption against the four-cylinder units they replace.



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MOTORING

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A taste of the Geneva Motor Show

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT'S not the biggest, but the Geneva show opening on Tuesday is probably the most prestigious and influential motor show in the world.

Every year, car-makers beat a path to the Swiss city and, in many cases, give their new models a world premiere.

One is Peugeot, with its new 2008 urban-crossover plus diesel-electric-hybrid spin-off, and the GTi version of the 208 supermini – said to be the long-awaited spiritual successor to the legendary 205 GTi. As the '2' prefix indicates, the 2008 is a supermini-sector SUV aimed at – and a lot prettier than – the Nissan Juke.

It comes as a slight surprise since French drivers have not so far embraced the SUV fad... and I have some respect there.

However, Peugeot has ambitious plans to become a leading global rather than French manufacturer and is emphasising that this car has been designed, developed and engineered by teams in Europe, China and Latin America, drawing on the success and design of the bigger award-winning 3008, plus the verve and state-of-the-art engines of the 208 launched last year.







SO MUCH TO SEE: From left, Peugeot, Kia and Nissan will be among the exhibitors at this year's Geneva show

Nissan signalled its intent to take a more dynamic design path in 2006 when it launched the original Note mini-MPV, which endeared itself to UK buyers by being built on home turf at Sunderland.

The Japanese marque will now use Geneva for the debut by the second-generation Note that, while following the same no-nonsense use of space and practicality as the original, introduces Safety Shield – a warning-systems package previously seen only on more costly premium cars.

Nissan says this not only reduces accident exposure but also minimises risk of accidental bumps or scrapes and enhances driver well-being.

Running costs have also been cut by a stop/start system as standard and powertrain CO_2 emissions as low as a road-tax-beating 95g/km.

Ambitious Korean brand Kia will use Geneva to highlight the effect that design has had on its rapid rise, the most tangible proof being the classy second-generation Proceed – three-door spin-off from the Ceed five-door hatch and estate line-up.

Priced from £17,495, the new car marries coupé style with hatchback practicality and is offered with 1.6 GDi petrol or 1.6 CRDi turbodiesel engines, though Kia has already revealed that a performance flagship is on the way.

On a practical note, the Proceed not only comes with Kia's usual seven-year/100,000-mile warranty but is also available with a three-year servicing package for £329.

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Official fuel consumption for the All-New Volvo V40 range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 24.4 (11.6) - 70.6 (4.0), Extra Urban 44.1 (6.4) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 34.0 (8.3) - 78.5 (3.6). CO_2 Emissions 194 - 94g/km.

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New Reg '13



MAKING WAVES: Citroën goes for style with its upmarket DS range – this is the keenly-priced DS3 Red special edition – while Vauxhall has a smart new city car called the Adam, below

Let the good times roll

By Steve Loader

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SO the UK lost its triple-AAA credit rating the other day and the economy still seems to reluctant to grow.

But there are still signs of underlying hope, such as falling unemployment and our apparently still-buoyant taste for new cars.

According to the motor-industry mouthpiece, the SMMT, UK car registrations rose 5.3 per cent last year – the highest increase since 2008 and the largest percentage rise since 2001 – and put sales across most of our EU partners in the shade.

It's not hard to guess why a new motor can seem attractive, though, when finance rates are low and savers aren't getting much for their deposits at present.

And before anyone thinks it's company cars driving the mini-boom, 2012 figures show that private demand outperformed the fleet sector with a 12.9 per cent rise in registrations. However, the new-car market was still 14.9 per cent below where it was in 2007, as the full force of the recession started to blow in.

Nevertheless, SMMT chief executive Paul Everitt was cautiously optimistic.

He said: "Boosted by strong consumer demand, the market grew at its fastest rate for 11 years, with innovative, fuel-efficient cars keeping buyers in showrooms.

"Looking ahead to 2013, we anticipate the market will hold firm, with manufacturers and dealers working hard to deliver quality and value to motorists."

Part of the UK performance is also due to imaginative add-on deals such as service packages, inclusive insurance deals and keenly-priced PCPs (personal contract plans) or private lease deals.

There are also outstanding warranties available such as Hyundai's five-year/unlimited-mileage deal and Vauxhall's Lifetime package.



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Models shown: ix20 Active 1.6 auto in Ice Blue metallic paint with nil advance payment. ix35 Style 1.6 GDi in Sleek Silver metallic paint with £299 advance payment. To qualify for the Motability offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement. Offers are subject to acceptance of Motability application. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. Full written details, including terms and conditions, of the Motability Scheme are available on request from Motability. Please note 60,000 miles over 3 years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme.
Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix20 Active 1.6 Auto: Urban 34.0 (8.3), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5), Combined 43.6 (6.5), CO_2 Emissions 154 g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix35 Style 1.6 GDi: Urban 34.4 (8.2), Extra Urban 47.1 (6.0), Combined 41.5 (6.8), CO_2 Emissions 158 g/km.

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NEW REG '13

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WISE MOVE: Hyundai's third-generation Santa Fe, far left, will be hitting the sales trail again, while Peugeot's 208 supermini shows off its compact style

13 lucky number for some, say trade experts

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MOTOR-DEALERS may be more superstitious than you think, according to car-trade analysts at CAP Automotive.

The publisher of the famous 'black book' guide to used-car values reckons the arrival of the '13-plate on Friday, March 1, may have heralded a win-win period for car-buyers. For CAP's hard-nosed number-crunchers reckon that franchised motor-dealers are fretting about a price war.

The problem is that EU car sales last year fell to their lowest point in 22 years, yet UK registrations rose 5.3 per cent and prompted accusations that manufacturers were reporting 'false' sales here as dealers 'pre-registered cars' to themselves to qualify for volume bonus payments.

But you can also see why the UK is such a good market for car-makers stuffed with stock: British consumers have benefited from historically low interest rates and increasingly competitive motor-finance deals, and CAP says the scene is set for more of the same in 2013.

Nevertheless, some dealers still have a backlog of unsold cars – many registered towards the end of last year – meaning that something has to give now that the powerful manufacturers have set the sales targets for the next new registration.

If dealers don't hit those targets, they don't get their all-important bonuses, so they will have to sacrifice profitability on individual sales to hit the jackpot.

That could mean discounting on new cars or generous offers on customer part-exchanges, or both – that's the win-win for any buyer.

CAP spokesman Philip Nothard said: "Whichever way you look at it, motorists will emerge the winners in this year's challenging market.

"Franchise dealers will almost inevitably have to use serious incentives to keep up with new-car targets. This is going to be a tough year for manufacturers and their dealer networks, but their pain looks set to be the motorist's gain."



Model	Term	41 Monthly Payments	Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Finance Deposit Contribution	Fixed Rate of Interest (per annum)	Amount of Credit	Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment	Total Amount Payable	Representative
CT 200h S	42 months	£249.00	£22,505.00	£4,995.00	£1,000.00	3.05%	£16,510.00	£8,885.38	£25,089.38	5.9% APR*

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CT prices start from £21,995. Model shown is CT S grade priced at £22,505 including optional metallic paint at £510. Price correct at time of going to print and includes VAT, delivery, number plates, full tank of fuel and £55 registration fee. *5.9% APR Representative and £1,000 finance deposit contribution available over 42 months on a Lexus Connect Contract Purchase (PCP) scheme on new retail sales of CT 200h when ordered and proposed for finance between the 29 November 2012 and 31 March 2013, registered and financed by 30 June 2013 through Lexus Financial Services. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Excess mileage charge applies over 35,000 miles at 9 pence per mile. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Lexus Centres are independent of Lexus Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Subject to availability. At participating Lexus Centres. †BIK company car tax calculated for a 40% taxpayer.

CT 200h S fuel consumption and CO_2 figures: urban 76.3 mpg (3.7 l/100km), extra-urban 76.3 mpg (3.7 l/100km), combined 74.3 mpg (3.8 l/100km). CO_2 emissions combined 87 g/km.

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† The Personal Contract Hire advertised is available on i10 Classic 1.2, i20 Classic 1.2 3dr and i30 Classic 1.4 models only. Rentals include VAT, start in the next calendar month and are based on an initial rental of £1,308 followed by 35 monthly rentals of £109 on i10 Classic 1.2, initial rental of £1,548 followed by 35 monthly rentals of £129 on i20 Classic 1.2 3dr, initial rental of £2,148 followed by 35 monthly rentals of £179 on i30 Active 1.4. The monthly rentals shown are based on a 36 month non-maintained agreement with metallic paint and with a mileage limitation of 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage and other charges may apply dependent on the mileage and condition of the vehicle at the end of the contract. Personal Contract Hire is made available by ALD Automotive Ltd, trading as Hyundai Personal Contract Hire, BS16 3JA. Terms and conditions apply. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. When the vehicle is returned it must be in good condition and not have exceeded the agreed mileage otherwise further charges will be incurred. Model and colour are subject to availability. If you choose this personal contract hire offer, you will not own the car. All offers, finance and savings are subject to availability and are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man), between 1st January and 31st March 2013, inclusive, sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised dealers. Offers are not available for customers under the Hyundai Affinity Programme. 5 Year Triple Care terms and conditions apply. Please see www.hyundai.co.uk or ask your local Dealer.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) – 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) – 80.7 (3.5), Combined 32.1 (8.8) – 76.3 (3.7), CO_2 Emissions 231 – 97 g/km.

NEW REG '13

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Families in favour of more space travel

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PEOPLE-CARRIERS or MPVs have helped stifle sales of traditional family cars.

Buyers have been wooed by a higher driving position and more space and versatility.

The feeling they are also getting more car for their money must help, plus MPVs have become more than a basic one-box or 'monocab' design, as shown by these examples and key brands highlighted here:

- **Citroën Picasso:** not one car, but a whole sub-brand ranging from the chunky pseudo SUV-style C3 Picasso to a brace of C4 models – one with five seats and the other with seven. Style, value and flexibility come as standard. The French marque also offers the capacious Berlingo Multispace budget MPV.
- **Honda:** cheating a bit here maybe, but Honda's Jazz is more than a supermini, thanks to its high roof and flexible rear seating that folds flat or tips up to allow stowage beneath the seat bases or loading across the rear floor.
- **Hyundai:** strictly speaking, the marque's ix20 contender is another supermini-cum-MPV thanks to a higher roof and huge cabin for its size, with the fast-growing Korean marque throwing in its usual five-year/unlimited-mileage warranty. Hyundai also produces the big eight-seat i800 MPV.
- **Peugeot:** can suit all pockets. It has two functional and affordable models at the budget end: the Bipper Tepee and its big brother, the Partner Tepee. For real luxury, though, there is the elegant seven-seat 5008.
- **Renault:** started the whole MPV thing and offers one of the best-known models, the Scenic. The line-up divides into five-seaters and those with seven – the latter being dubbed Grand Scenics.
- **Vauxhall** – one of the most diverse MPV ranges on offer. It starts with the supermini-size Agila and steps up to the Meriva, which has rearward-opening back doors for easy access. Then come the Zafira sisters: the original was joined last year by the even roomier and more upmarket Zafira Tourer – both have the brand's trademark fold-flat Flex7 rear seats.



FLEXIBLE AND UPMARKET: Vauxhall's striking Zafira Tourer



FAMILY RIVALRY: Citroën's C4 Picasso sisters with the seven-seat Grand on the right



FRENCH OPPOSITION:...and here are the Renault Scenic siblings – with the Grand also on the right



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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for: the 107 range: Urban 52.3 – 55.4 (5.4 – 5.1), Extra Urban 70.6 – 74.3 (4.1 – 3.8), Combined 62.8 – 65.7 (4.5 – 4.3) and CO_2 104 – 99; 208 range: Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (3.6 – 8.1), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO_2 135 – 87.

#Terms and conditions apply, participating dealers only or visit www.peugeot.co.uk.

*The first year Road Fund Licence (RFL) is included in the on the road price. The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. The customer must apply for years 2 & 3 RFL. Just Add Fuel (JAF) is subject to status. †Minimum age 21, 25 or 30 on selected models, maximum age 75. Policyholder must have a minimum of 2 years NCD to use on the vehicle. All drivers must meet eligibility criteria including minimum 2 years' full UK licence, driving convictions/claims limits. Excesses apply. 3 years motor insurance is provided and underwritten by U K Insurance Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. 107 Active 3 dr initial rental £1,564, optional final rental £4,072, 35 monthly rentals. 208 Active 1.0VTi 68 3dr initial rental £1,576, optional final rental £5,357, 35 monthly rentals. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental, you can pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals but will not own the car. Ownership is possible with JAF Passport, ask your Dealer for details. Rentals quoted for a typical customer and will vary according to age, post code and annual mileage. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in N I. Offer available on cars ordered and registered by March 2013. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

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Terms and exclusions apply. Warranty 100,000 miles; Service 48,000 miles. Finance conditions apply. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Ltd, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. Visit www.renault.co.uk/4plus for details. *Rental stated is for Renault Lease. Comparable payments are available on our personal contract purchase product – ask your dealer for details. If you choose Renault Lease then you will not own the car. When you have paid the final rental at the end of the contract, you can keep using the car and pay an annual rental equivalent to one monthly rental. Typical example: New Clio Dynamique MediaNav 1.2 16V 75: advance rental **£1,500 inc VAT** followed by 48 monthly rentals of **£179 inc VAT**, when opting to pay final rental of **£4,542 inc VAT**. Car shown is a New Clio Dynamique S MediaNav TCe 90 S&S; advance rental **£2,125 inc VAT** followed by 48 monthly rentals of **£199 inc VAT**, when opting to pay final rental of **£5,647 inc VAT**. A finance facility fee of **£149** will be payable with the advance rental. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. Available at participating dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any other schemes or finance offers. Please check with your local dealer for information. Offers are available to retail and business customers (but exclude fleet customers with own terms), and are valid on new vehicles when ordered by 1 July 2013. Flame metallic paint an additional £535. †Unforgettable weekend in Paris prize draw for two is restricted to one entry per person, per household. Package includes transport, two nights 5-star accommodation, breakfast each morning, dinner for one night at the Jules Verne Restaurant at the Eiffel Tower, €100 hotel spa voucher, €750 spending money and travel insurance. No cash alternative. This prize draw is open to those aged 18 or over. It is not open to employees (and their families) of Renault UK Ltd, their suppliers, agents, third parties, employees of authorised Renault Dealerships or anyone professionally connected with this promotion. This promotion closes on 31 March 2013. Promoter: Renault UK Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Maple Cross, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS. For full terms and conditions visit **www.renault.co.uk/win.**

NEW REG '13

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An eco-friendly and economical alliance

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ECO cars are being bought to save the wallet or purse as much, if not more, than helping to save the planet.

Not only can such cars save huge fuel bills, with average consumption rates far better than might have been dreamed just 10 years ago, but they also save on taxes.

Business users can gain from models with lower Benefit-in-Kind taxes, but any road-user can save with a modern and more economical car attracting a lower road tax or VED.

The latest tax bandings range from zero for cars with the lowest CO_2 emissions (below 100g/km) right up to £475.

Even more crucially, you don't pay anything for low-CO_2-emitting cars in tax bands A-D for the first year, but the road tax soars as you go up the scale so that serious gas-guzzlers in the top band, M, attract £1,030 tax in year one – not for nothing is the first-year tariff otherwise known as the 'show-room tax'.

Of course, anyone spending £50,000-£100,000 on a car won't fret about such small change, but most people like saving on fuel and tax while also doing their bit for the environment.

Longer term, electric cars may be the answer and there has been much publicity about 'plug-in' models for overnight charging at home or city-centre charging points.

But battery technology must catch up and the zero-emissions argument for electric is misleading. Until we have zero-emission power stations, electric cars simply transfer the CO_2 and noxious gas output from exhaust to belching chimney.

Hybrids, pairing electric power and batteries with an internal combustion engine, are a good halfway house, but you will pay more to buy one before the economic and ecological benefits can kick in.

But then, conventional 'eco' cars are not always cheap, either, so shop around and note that if you don't cover enough miles to make fuel savings offset the car's purchase price, conventional alternatives may be a better bet.

Don't ignore petrol models, either; the higher price of diesels and the fuel at the pumps must also be compared with new small-capacity, low-emission/consumption yet lively turbocharged petrol engines.





GO GREEN: Top: Lexus CT 200h – the only compact executive hybrid model on the UK market. Bottom: The stunning new fourth-generation Renault Clio is also very eco-friendly.



Models shown are Yaris Edition 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual £11,795. Metallic paint £495 extra. AYGO Fire 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual £9,635. Metallic paint £450 extra. Prices correct at time of going to press. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail sales of Yaris (excluding T2 and Hybrid), AYGO (excluding Entry model), Auris (MY13 excluding Active and Hybrid Synergy drive), Verso (excluding MY13 Active) and Avensis when ordered between 1 December 2012 and 31 March 2013 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ before 30 June 2013 on a 3 year AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0%-20% deposit and 0-25% deposit on MY13 Auris and MY13 Verso. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Excess mileage over 30,000 charged at 8p per mile on Auris, AYGO and Yaris, 9p per mile on Verso and Avensis. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and Conditions apply. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.
Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km); Yaris Range: Urban 41.5 (6.8) – 91.1 (3.1), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5) – 80.7 (3.5), Combined 52.3 (5.4) – 80.7 (3.5). CO_2 Emissions 123g/km - 79g/km. AYGO Range: Urban 52.3 (5.4) – 55.4 (5.1), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0) – 74.3 (3.8), Combined 62.7 (4.5) – 65.7 (4.3). CO_2 Emissions 104g/km - 99g/km.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) – 67.3 (4.2). Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) – 91.1 (3.1). Combined: 20.6 (13.7) – 80.7 (3.5). CO_2 emissions: 324 – 94g/km.
Cars shown for illustration purposes only. Finance subject to status. Like for like written quotation must be produced within 7 days of your purchase. Terms & conditions apply. Ask for details.

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Vehicles shown feature metallic paint at an additional cost of £425 for Aveo and £445 for Cruze Hatchback. Offer available until March 31st 2013. ^0% APR Representative. Minimum 20% deposit. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Santander Consumer (UK) plc, RH1 1SR or GMAC PO BOX 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offers available at participating Dealers only and not available in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all Dealer stock. Warranty expires at 5 years or 100,000 miles, whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment of a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 mile limitation. Years 4 and 5 are an insurance-backed warranty up to a maximum of 100,000 miles. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. 5 year warranty is available on retail registrations and at participating Dealers only. Prices correct at time of print.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Aveo Range: Urban 34.0 (8.3) – 67.2 (4.2), Extra Urban 55.3 (5.1) – 85.6 (3.3), Combined 44.8 (6.3) – 78.4 (3.6) CO_2 emissions 147 – 95g/km. Cruze Hatchback Range: Urban 27.4 (10.3) – 51.3 (5.5), Extra Urban 50.4 (5.6) – 72.4 (3.9), Combined 38.7 (7.3) – 62.7 (4.5) CO_2 emissions 170 – 117g/km.

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Tricia Cole CEO
Carers' Support - Dover District & Thanet
80 Middle Street, Deal, Kent CT14 6HL
or email: **tricia@carers-doverdistrict.org**

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Email address: **marie.hunnisett@nhs.net**

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PLANNING

Public Notice

3 March 2013

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Local Government Finance Act 1992
Information regarding Council Tax in accordance with Section 38

Notice is hereby given that on 21 February 2013 the council set its Council Tax for the year 2013/14 and publishes notice of the following amounts payable which include Parish, Kent County Council and Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority precepts:

Band	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Adisham	979.63	1,142.90	1,306.17	1,469.45	1,795.99	2,122.53	2,449.08	2,938.89
Barham	989.05	1,153.89	1,318.73	1,483.57	1,813.25	2,142.93	2,472.62	2,967.14
Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne	969.97	1,131.63	1,293.29	1,454.95	1,778.28	2,101.60	2,424.92	2,909.91
Bishopsbourne	976.44	1,139.18	1,301.92	1,464.66	1,790.14	2,115.62	2,441.10	2,929.32
Blean	974.45	1,136.86	1,299.27	1,461.68	1,786.50	2,111.32	2,436.13	2,923.36
Bridge	987.98	1,152.64	1,317.31	1,481.97	1,811.30	2,140.62	2,469.95	2,963.94
Chartham	1,003.52	1,170.78	1,338.03	1,505.29	1,839.79	2,174.30	2,508.81	3,010.57
Chestfield	986.95	1,151.44	1,315.94	1,480.43	1,809.41	2,138.39	2,467.38	2,960.85
Chislet	978.78	1,141.91	1,305.04	1,468.17	1,794.43	2,120.69	2,446.95	2,936.34
Fordwich	984.36	1,148.42	1,312.48	1,476.54	1,804.66	2,132.78	2,460.90	2,953.08
Hackington	973.12	1,135.31	1,297.49	1,459.68	1,784.05	2,108.43	2,432.80	2,919.36
Harbledown and Rough Common	980.57	1,143.99	1,307.42	1,470.85	1,797.70	2,124.56	2,451.41	2,941.70
Hardres Lower	971.96	1,133.95	1,295.94	1,457.93	1,781.92	2,105.91	2,429.89	2,915.87
Hardres Upper	976.64	1,139.42	1,302.19	1,464.97	1,790.52	2,116.06	2,441.61	2,929.93
Herne and Broomfield	980.76	1,144.22	1,307.68	1,471.14	1,798.05	2,124.97	2,451.89	2,942.27
Hoath	977.90	1,140.88	1,303.87	1,466.85	1,792.82	2,118.78	2,444.75	2,933.70
Ickham	973.50	1,135.75	1,298.00	1,460.25	1,784.75	2,109.25	2,433.75	2,920.50
Kingston	972.13	1,134.16	1,296.18	1,458.20	1,782.24	2,106.29	2,430.33	2,916.40
Littlebourne	1,007.45	1,175.36	1,343.27	1,511.17	1,846.99	2,182.81	2,518.62	3,022.35
Petham	984.06	1,148.07	1,312.08	1,476.09	1,804.11	2,132.13	2,460.15	2,952.18
Sturry	987.29	1,151.84	1,316.39	1,480.94	1,810.04	2,139.13	2,468.23	2,961.88
Thanington Without	979.35	1,142.57	1,305.80	1,469.02	1,795.47	2,121.92	2,448.37	2,938.05
Waltham	981.85	1,145.49	1,309.14	1,472.78	1,800.06	2,127.35	2,454.63	2,945.56
Westbere	1,000.88	1,167.69	1,334.50	1,501.31	1,834.94	2,168.56	2,502.19	3,002.63
Wickhambreaux	987.24	1,151.78	1,316.32	1,480.86	1,809.94	2,139.02	2,468.09	2,961.71
Womenswold	975.47	1,138.05	1,300.63	1,463.21	1,788.37	2,113.52	2,438.68	2,926.42
All other parts of the council's area	959.52	1,119.44	1,279.36	1,439.28	1,759.12	2,078.96	2,398.80	2,878.56

Colin Carmichael
Chief Executive
Canterbury City Council
Military Road
CANTERBURY CT1 1YW

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/12/1134/S - BROOKLYN, BRIDGE STREET, LOOSE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0BY - Alterations to existing porch including new door and fenestration details. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/12/1426/N - LAND AT, PENHURST CLOSE, GROVE GREEN, KENT - Erection of single storey building comprising four retail units for uses falling within Use Classes A1, A2, A3, or D1, with associated pedestrian and vehicular access ways, refuse stores, car parking, CCTV cameras with secure recording room, and landscaping as shown on drawing nos. 1842/01and 1842/02/B received on 3/8/12; and drawing nos. 1842/03/J, 1842/04/G and 1213/12/6/A received on 4/12/12. **Reason: 9**

MA/12/1583/S - WELL COTTAGE, BENOVER ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6AS - Listed Building Consent for a single-storey rear extension. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/2246/N - CHURCHILL LODGE, ASHFORD ROAD, WEAVERING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4AE - Reinstatement of former access and installation of gates. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/2280/N - THE CLOTH HALL, 5, NORTH STREET, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9NN - Change of use of ground floor to Sui Generis use (Beauty treatment salon). **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/0109/N - WHITE COTTAGE, GRANGE LANE, BOXLEY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3DA - Installation of temporary surface for car parking for a temporary period of 24 months. **Reason: 6**

MA/13/0163/N - OLD GROVE MILL DAIRY, EYHORNE STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TT - Conversion of building to single dwelling including erection of single storey extension, alterations to fenestration and associated works. **Reason: 1, 2, 9**

MA/13/0208/S - EWELL MANOR, EWELL LANE, WEST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0NG - Change of use of land for the siting of a mobile home for a temporary period until 31st December 2014. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0210/S - YARD COTTAGE, WIERTON HALL FARM, EAST HALL HILL, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4JU - Erection of a single storey detached building to form annexe. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0224/S - 87, BANK STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1SD - Erection of external staircase. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/0225/S - 87, BANK STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1SD - Listed building consent for the erection of external staircase. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0228/S - GREAT TILDEN FARMHOUSE, TILDEN LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9AY - Application for a new planning permission to replace extant planning permission MA/10/0351 (Application to extend the time limit for implementing permission MA/04/1373 for conversion of existing barn to provide a mixed use of ancillary accommodation to the main house and tourist accommodation). **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0243/S - THE CLOTH HALL, 5, NORTH STREET, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9NN - Listed building consent for installation of new partition wall. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0246/S - LITTLE ADDLESTEAD, BENOVER ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6EY - Erection of a detached garage and biomass boiler room. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0247/N - 22, MARSHAM STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1EP - Conversion and extension of a cellar to provide a single bedroom flat. **Reason: 2**

MA/13/0248/N - 22, MARSHAM STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1EP - An application for conservation area consent for works to convert and extend a cellar to provide a single bedroom flat. **Reason: 4**

MA/13/0252/S - NORTON COURT, CHURCH ROAD, CHART SUTTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3RE - Alterations to garage to form games room. **Reason: 1**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
4 - Application is for Conservation Area Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.
9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **17th March 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 3rd March 2013

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PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/00295/HOUSE **East Lodge 3A Nevill Park, Broadwater**
- Extension to existing detached log cabin (CA)

13/00361/FUL **Golford Stables Tenterden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Three bedroom dwelling to replace mobile home (LB)

13/00364/HOUSE **Pound House Wilsley Pound, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Demolish existing garage and replace with new garage and workshop and two arches (amendments to TW/12/01821/HOUSE) (LB)

13/00365/LBC **Pound House Wilsley Pound, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Demolish existing garage and replace with new garage and workshop and two arches (amendments to TW/12/01822/LBC) (LB)

13/00355/HOUSE **Fairmead Back Lane, Goudhurst**
- Removal of existing timber double garage and erection of oak framed double garage (CA)

12/03260/HOUSE **3 Cranbrook Road Hawkhurst, Hawkhurst**
- Replace hanging tiles with weatherboarding to gable end (CA)

13/00321/LBC **Barn Outbuilding & Former Stables Poplars Farm, Horsmonden**
- Listed Building Consent - Repairs to barn. Concrete floor to be constructed in one bay to match other bays (LB)

13/00370/HOUSE **8 Clifton Place Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Enclosure of access path to property with roof over and new entrance doorway (CA)

13/00340/FUL **Calverley Precinct And Five Ways Calverley Road, Park**
- Change of use of land to allow temporary siting on a maximum number of 6 pitches for street trading for a period of 3 years (CA)

13/00374/HOUSE **5E Sandrock Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Raising of roof to create first floor. Single storey rear extension (CA)

13/00404/LBC **The Old Mill Amhurst Bank Road, Pembury**
- Listed Building Consent: Remodelling of existing lean to extension to form a larger kitchen (LB)

13/00250/LBC **Holden House Holden Road, Southborough Town Council**
- Listed Building Consent - alterations to existing basement room (LB)

13/00377/FUL **Still Lane London Road, Southborough Town Council**
- Minor Material Amendment - Amendment to Condition 3 relating to windows on rear elevations of houses, and Condition 17 relating to parking area, of TW/09/00968 - Demolition of derelict vacant builders yard. Construction of three 3-bed houses, one 2-bed house and six 1-bed flats around an enclosed courtyard, including eighteen car parking spaces, refuse enclosure and gardens (CA)

13/00134/HOUSE **East Lodge Groombridge Road, Speldhurst**
- Removal of 20th Century extensions and form new extensions. Internal alterations (LB)

13/00136/LBC **East Lodge Groombridge Road, Speldhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Removal of 20th Century extensions and form new extensions. Internal alterations (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 02 March 2013

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Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//13/00290/VAR: Bat and Ball Car Park Site, St Lawrence Cricket Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury Variation of condition 04 of CA/10/00375/FUL to allow tree works to be carried out to three Corsican pines. **Applicant: Bellway Homes SE Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00292/FUL: Top Flat, 12 Douglas Road, Herne Bay Replacement of existing first floor timber sash windows to front and rear of property with PVCU sash windows to match existing styles and designs. **Applicant: Mrs Flood** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00299/FUL: 61 Lansdown Road, Canterbury, CT1 3JP Proposed conversion of a single dwelling into two self-contained flats. **Applicant: Mr D Tempest-Mogg** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00301/FUL: 2 Beer Cart Lane and 70 Stour Street, Canterbury, CT1 2NW Conversion, extension and modernisation of the existing office blocks for the retention of B1a office floorspace and a residential development of 14 two bedroom apartments, plus associated car parking, landscaping and infrastructure. **Applicant: Landcap Quinn Beer Cart Lane Ltd** Reason: Contrary/major/conservation.
CA//13/00304/FUL: Aldi Stores Ltd, St Andrews Close, Canterbury, CT1 2RL Provision of a stepped access from Rheims Way down to the Aldi Store car park. **Applicant: Aldi Stores Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00307/FUL: Plots 20 and 25 Shalmsford Farm, Shalmsford Street, Chartham Change of use of land with fencing and landscaping to form enlarged gardens to Plots 20 and 25 Shalmsford Farm. **Applicant: Pentland Homes Limited** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/00309/FUL: Former Mill House Tavern, St Martin's Hill, Canterbury, CT1 1RD Redevelopment of the site to provide a 60 bedroom care home together with associated landscaping and parking provision. **Applicant: Maria Mallaband Care Group** Reason: Major development.
CA//13/00310/ADV: 65-67 High Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AU Erection of two internally illuminated fascia signs and one new internally illuminated projecting sign. **Applicant: Barclays Bank Plc** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00313/FUL: Duke Cottage, Church Hill, Harbledown, CT2 9AE Extension of existing listed dwelling to form kitchen and to house a relocated bedroom, create bathroom and en-suite in existing bedroom and to create stairwell and first floor link to existing studio at rear. **Applicant: Ms Long** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/00314/LB: Duke Cottage, Church Hill, Harbledown, CT2 9AE Extension of existing listed dwelling to form kitchen and to house a relocated bedroom, create bathroom and en-suite in existing bedroom and to create stairwell and first floor link to existing studio at rear. **Applicant: Ms Long** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/00320/FUL: 56 Middle Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1BN Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of new extension to the rear of house in its place. Internal reconfiguration and new first-floor window to side of property. **Applicant: Mr and Mr Deja** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00322/FUL: 10B Rose Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2SJ Change of use from Use Class A1 (Retail) to a mixed use (Use Classes A1/A3) coffee shop. **Applicant: Costa Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00327/FUL: 28 The Grove, Barham, CT4 6PP Single-storey side and two-storey rear extension to provide extra living space. **Applicant: Mr Aljumily** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00329/FUL: 37 South Canterbury Road, Canterbury, CT1 3LH First-floor and single-storey ground-floor rear extensions. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Wilkie** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/00334/FUL: 74 Regent Street, Whitstable, CT5 1JQ Proposed single storey rear extension, loft conversion and internal alterations. **Applicant: Mr Lister and Miss Dodds** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 25 March 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 1 March 2013

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 18 MARCH 2013

SW/12/1578:
To replace ground floor aluminium window with timber sliding sash window - 10 Cross Lane, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0075:
Regularise the use of units 2 and 3 for B2 use - Meadow Farm, Church Road, TONGE; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0080:
Proposed conversion of existing dwelling into one three bed house and a one bedroom residential studio unit - 6 Garfield Place, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0090:
Side garage extension - Mount Mere, Eastchurch Road, EASTCHURCH; **REASON 4**

SW/13/0103:
Construction of nine houses and change of use from industrial to residential - Red Shed Site, Lower Road, TEYNHAM; **REASON 6**

SW/13/0106 &
SW/13/0168:
Change of use from a MOD ancillary building to a cottage/dwelling house, together with minor associated alterations - Building r/o Drill Hall, Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0124:

Change of use and extension of farm store r/o Farm Office to office/studio use including car parking - Farm Store r/o Farm Office, Oad Street, BORDEN; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0134:
Demolition of redundant chimney breasts and stack at rear - Primrose House, Primrose Lane, BREDGAR; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0137:
Change of use for gypsy and traveller site to incorporate previous site approvals, increase number of pitches, relocate and enlarge communal facility building. Includes parking, lighting, fencing and landscape buffer - Brotherhood Wood, Gate Hill, DUNKIRK; **REASONS 3 & 6**

SW/13/0146:
Replacement of existing public telephone kiosk with kiosk combining public telephone service and ATM service - Kiosk Fronting Gerald Lukehurst, 5 High Street, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0149:
Application for a new planning permission to replace extant planning permission (SW/10/0113) for the creation of 2 One-Bed flats and removal of signage to front of property - 39-40 Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0151:
Conversion of the garage into bedroom accommodation & erection of a single storey lean to extension - The Stables, Johnson Road, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0170:
Minor interior alterations to living accommodation. New rear first floor bedroom accommodation and side ground floor utility room - 2 Cheney Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 4**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0121/SH# - 106 High Street Lydd Romney Marsh Kent TN29 9BA - Extension of time limit of planning permission Y09/1100/SH for the erection of fourteen dwelling houses with associated parking, landscaping and new access road.

Y12/1034/SH# - 64 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AT - Retrospective application for the continued use of bakers shop (Class A1) as a mixed use with cafe (Class A3), (resubmission of planning application Y05/0034/SH).

Y13/0099/SH# - 53 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AJ - Display of an internally illuminated fascia sign, an internally illuminated hanging sign, an internally illuminated projecting sign and an internally illuminated ATM surround.

Y13/0134/SH - Bouverie House Bouverie Road West Folkestone Kent CT20 2RW - Erection of canopy to main entrance on south facing (Bouverie Road West) elevation.

Y13/0063/SH+ - 44A High Street Hythe Kent CT21 5AT - Change of use from retail (Class A1) to restaurant (Class A3) together with installation of extraction system.

Y13/0119/SH - Communications mast Canterbury Road Densole Kent - Replacement of two existing antennae, installation of four additional antennae and installation of two dishes (Telecommunications Development).

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

\# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

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HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD

A28 CHART ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

As part of a programme of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on sections of A28 Chart Road, Ashford, on or after 8 March 2013 as shown below.

TEMPLER WAY ROUNDABOUT

A28 Chart Road will be closed at the junction with Templer Way on 8 & 11 March, between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

The roundabout and all approach roads will be closed, with the extent of each closure shown below:

A28 TEMPLAR WAY from the junction with Repton Avenue (Waitrose)

A28 CHART ROAD from the junction with Hilton Road

A28 CHART ROAD from the junction with Repton Manor Road

The alternative route is via A28 Chart Road, Brookfield Road, Leacon Road, Victoria Road, A2042 Beaver Road, A292 Elwick Road, Godinton Road, West Street, New Street, Chart Road and Maidstone Road

LOUDON WAY TRAFFIC LIGHTS

A28 Chart Road will be closed in two phases at the junction with Loudon Way

14 - 22 March 2013 (excluding weekends) between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night

PHASE 1 - Closed between Loudon Way and Hilton Road

PHASE 2 - Closed between Loudon Way and Brunswick Road

The alternative route for through traffic is via Chart Road, Brunswick Road, Hilton Road

Traffic will be able to access Loudon Way / Godinton Park Estate from one or other direction according to the location of the works, and will be controlled by temporary traffic signals.

HART HILL, CHARING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow safe access for telegraph pole replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hart Hill, Charing, on or after 5 March 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Stonestile Farm Road and Warren Street.

The alternative route is via Stonestile Farm Road and Warren Street.

HINXHILL ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow safe access to phone cables in carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hinxhill Road, Ashford, on or after 4 March 2013 for up to 1 day, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours.

A short section of Hinxhill Road will be closed between the junction with The Street and the short one-way spur leading to The Street, with no access from The Street into Hinxhill Road.

The alternative routes are

Eastbound (towards Hinxhill) via The Street, A20 Hythe Road, Bockham Lane, Plumpton and Hinxhill Road

Westbound (for any traffic unable to turn right from Hinxhill Road into The Street) via The Street, A20 Hythe Road, Willesborough Interchange and A2070 Kennington Road.

POT KILN LANE, BETHERSDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow safe access for telegraph pole works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pot Kiln Lane, Bethersden, on or after 4 March 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Potteries Farm and Quilter's Cottage, with no through access between the junctions with Green Lane and Smarden Road (Bethersden Road).

The alternative route is via Harris Lane, Thurstons Lane, Cripple Hill, A28 Ashford Road and Bull Lane to Pot Kiln Lane.

ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

As part of a programme of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on sections of Romney Marsh Road, Ashford, on or after 4 March 2013, as shown below.

A2042 ROMNEY MARSH ROAD ROUNDABOUT

Romney Marsh Road will be closed where it meets Bad Munstereifel Road, on 4 - 7 March 2013 between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

Further closures are likely the following week, between 11-14 March for the same times, to allow high-friction surfacing to be carried out.

The roundabout and all approaches will be closed, including the following roads, which will be closed between the roundabout and the junctions shown

A2042 BAD MUNSTEREIFEL ROAD, from the junction with the A2070 Hamstreet Bypass ('Cloverleaf')

MALCOLM SARGENT ROAD, from the junction with Wotton Road

ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, from the junction with Norman Road (Designer Outlet / Asda Roundabout)

ROMNEY MARSH ROAD from the junction with Forestall Meadow (Park Farm)

The alternative route is via A2070 'Cloverleaf', Sheepfold Lane, Bluebell Road, Forestall Meadow, Ashford Road, Kingsnorth Road, B2229 Beaver Road and Norman Road

PARK FARM ESTATE ROUNDABOUT

Romney Marsh Road will be closed at the junctions with Ashford Road / Forestall Meadow on the following Saturday nights: 9 March & 16 March & 23 March 2013 between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night (i.e. Saturday Nights only)

The roundabout and all approaches will be closed, including the following roads, which will be closed between the roundabout and the junctions shown

ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, from the junction with Bad Munstereifel Road

FORESTALL MEADOW, from the junction with Moatfield Meadow

The alternative route for both closures is via Bluebell Road, Sheepfold Lane, A2070 Cloverleaf and A2042 Bad Munstereifel Road

ASHFORD ROAD, from the junction with Britannia Lane

ASHFORD ROAD, from the junction with Pound Lane

The alternative route for both closures is via Pound Lane, Millbank Road, Britannia Lane, Kingsnorth Road and Malcolm Sargent Road

SUSSEX AVENUE, STURGES ROAD & KENT AVENUE, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sussex Avenue, Sturges Road and Kent Avenue, Ashford, on or after 4 March 2013 as described below.

The three roads will be closed in succession, in phases for their entire lengths.

The roads will be closed from Monday 4 March 2013 for up to one week, for carriageway patching works, between 09:00 hours and 17:00 hours each day.

Micro-surfacing is planned for Saturday 23 March & Sunday 24 March 2013, between 07:00 and 19:00 hours each day, with the roads re-opened outside of these hours.

Additional closures will be required for a further 2 days within 14 days from completion of the surfacing, to allow for re-alignment of covers in the carriageway.

There is no alternative route, as such. The one-way Traffic Orders for the three roads will be suspended to allow limited access up to the point of closure, from either direction.

Arrangements are in place with Ashford Borough Council to suspend parking and provide alternative parking for residents in a nearby car park.

THE STREET, GODMERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of bridge repairs and maintenance, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Street, Godmersham, on or after 18 March 2013 for up to 5 weeks, between 19:00 hours through until 06:00 hours each night.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via A28 Canterbury Road, Bramble Lane, Bridge Street, Churchfield Way, High Street and Olantigh Road.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY

GROVE FERRY LEVEL CROSSING, UPSTREET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Grove Ferry Level Crossing, Upstreet, on or after 10 March 2013, as shown below.

Grove Ferry Hill will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing.

The planned closure times are from Sunday 10 March 2013 at 01:00 hours through until Monday 11 March at 04:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Grove Ferry Road, Grove Road, Stourmouth Road, Preston Road, The Street, A253 Ramsgate Road, A28 Island Road, and Grove Ferry Hill.

B2205 TANKERTON ROAD, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2205 Tankerton Road, Whitstable, on or after 18 March 2013, as shown below.

TANKERTON ROAD, WHITSTABLE will be closed from the Tankerton Roundabout as far as Tower Hill.

The road will be closed from Wednesday 18 March through until Thursday 28 March 2013 inclusive, but re-opened at the weekend from Friday evening until Monday morning.

The alternative routes are

Eastbound via Tower Hill, Marine Parade, St Anne's Road. East

Westbound via St Anne's Road and Northwood Road

The side roads meeting Tankerton Road will be closed at their junctions with Tankerton Road, as signposted on site.

TANKERTON ROUNDABOUT and all approach roads will also be closed from Wednesday 27 March for up to 2 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours

The alternative routes for traffic affected by this are

Eastbound via Tower Hill, Marine Parade and Graystone Road

Westbound via Pier Avenue and Northwood Road

Traffic will be prevented from turning southbound into Northwood Road at the junction with Tankerton Road / Tower Parade

A2990 (OLD) THANET WAY & CHESTFIELD ROUNDABOUT (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

As part of a programme of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on the A2990 (Old) Thanet Way at Chestfield Roundabout, on or after 5 March 2013, as shown below.

A2990 (Old) Thanet Way will be closed at the junction with Chestfield Road, from 5 to 7 March 2013, between 20:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night

The closures will be in 2 phases, as follows

PHASE 1 - the southern section of the roundabout (i.e. westbound towards Whitstable) will be closed for 1 night on 5 March 2013

There will be no westbound through access on the (Old) Thanet Way from Greenhill Bridge Road (apart from local access).

The alternative route for A2990 Thanet Way westbound traffic is via B2205 Greenhill Bridge Road, Sea Street, Whitstable Road Colewood Road, St John's Road, Herne Bay Road, Bennells Avenue, Tankerton Road, Harbour Street, High Street, Oxford Street, Canterbury Road and Borstal Hill to rejoin the (Old) Thanet Way

CHESTFIELD ROAD - the southern section will be closed at the junction with the roundabout.

The diversion to reach the Old Thanet Way is via South Street and Millstrood Road, plus the following, to reach the northern side of Chestfield Road - Old Thanet Way to B2205 Borstal Hill, Canterbury Road, Oxford Street, High Street, Harbour Street, Tankerton Road, Bennells Avenue and Herne Bay Road

PHASE 2 - the northern section (i.e. eastbound towards Herne Bay) will be closed for 2 nights, on 6 and 7 March 2013

The section of Chestfield Road between the A2990 and B2205 Herne Bay Road / St John's Road will also be closed

There will be no eastbound access beyond the junction with Foxgrove Road, but local access will remain as far as Reeves Way

The alternative route is via A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Borstal Hill, Canterbury Road, Oxford Street, High Street, Harbour Street, Tankerton Road, Bennells Avenue, Herne Bay Road, St John's Road, Colewood Road, Whitstable Road, Sea Street and Greenhill Bridge Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, HERNE BAY & WHITSTABLE (MICRO-SURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching followed by micro-surfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in Herne Bay and Whitstable, on or after 4 March 2013, as shown below.

For each site, additional 1- or 2-day closures may be necessary within 2 weeks from the surfacing, to allow for re-alignment of iron work in the carriageway, to be signposted and notified locally.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

HAM SHADES LANE, WHITSTABLE will be closed between the junctions with Church Street and Foxgrove Road

Patching works - 4 March 2013 for one week, between 07:00 hours and 17:30 hours each day

Micro Surfacing - 15 April 2013 for 1 day, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours

Additional closure may be required for a further 2 days

The alternative route is via Church Street, A2990 Thanet Way and Foxgrove Road

LANE END, HERNE BAY will be closed between the junctions with Sea Street and Western Esplanade/Central Parade (including roundabout)

Micro Surfacing 25 March 2013 for 1 day, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours

Additional closure may be required for a further day

There are 2 different diversion routes whilst the roundabout is closed at Western Esplanade

1. The Broadway, Albany Road and Western Esplanade

2. Avenue Road, Station Road / Richmond Street, High Street & Avenue Rd.

NORTH STREET, HERNE BAY will be closed between the junctions with High Street and Charles Street

Micro Surfacing 25 March 2013 for 1 day, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours

Additional closure may be required for a further day

The diversion routes depend on where the road is closed

Closure between High Street and Mortimer Street

Northbound via High Street, East Street, Charles Street and North Street

Southbound via Mortimer Street, Canterbury Road and High Street

Closure between Mortimer Street and Charles Street (One-way) - Charles Street, William Street, Central Parade, Canterbury Road, High Street & North Street.

TOWER HILL, WHITSTABLE will be closed between the junctions with Tower Parade and Park Avenue

Friday 12 April 2013 for 1 day, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours.

Additional closure may be required for a further day within 14 days

The alternative route is via B2205 Tankerton Road and Park Avenue

The One-way Traffic Order will be suspended to allow limited access

Note there are no events at Whitstable Castle on the planned date

HIGHWAYS - DOVER

COOMBE VALLEY ROAD, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through

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Kent County Council

traffic on Coombe Valley Road, Dover, on or after 4 March 2013 for up to 4 days, between 08:00 hours through until 19:00 hours each day.

The road will be closed from the junction with the A256 London Road to just north of Buckland Hospital (no.110 Coombe Valley Road)

The alternative routes are

Westbound via A256 London Road, Crabble Hill, Crabble Road, Crabble Avenue, Hillside Road, Bunkers Hill Road, St Radigund's Road and Barwick Road

Eastbound via Barwick Road, St Radigund's Road, Bunkers Hill Road, Hillside Road, Crabble Avenue, Crabble Road, A256 Crabble Hill, London Road, Buckland Avenue, Cherry Tree Avenue and London Road

HILLSIDE ROAD, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hillside Road, Dover, on or after 23 March 2013 for up to 2 days between 08:00 hrs and 17:00 hrs.

The alternative route is via Crabble Avenue, Crabble Road, A256 Crabble Hill, Buckland Avenue, Cherry Tree Avenue, London Road, Coombe Valley Road *but note 13' 9" (4.2 M) height restriction,* Primrose Road, St Radigund's Road, Bunkers Hill Road.

HIGHWAYS - GRAVESHAM

HENLEY STREET GRAVESEND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT works for the provision of a new telegraph pole for new customer connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Henley Street Gravesend, on or after 19th March 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Batts Road for approximately 500meters.

There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Gold Street, Sole Street, The Street Cobhambury Road and Luddesdown Road.

NORAH LANE GRAVESEND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of New gas service, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Norah Lane Gravesend, on or after 4 March 2013 for up to 8 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside number 36 Norah Lane.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with .

The alternative route is via Vilal Road, Gravesend Road and Hollytree Drive.

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE

ENDINGS WOOD ROAD, WICHLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT poling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Endings Wood Road, Wichling, on or after 4 March 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Coalpit Lane to Ashdown Lane.

The alternative route is via Wichling Green Lane, Faversham Road, West Street, Ashdown Lane.

(HAM LANE, LENHAM, BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL hereby makes the above named Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984:

The effect of the named Order (Prohibition of Waiting) will introduce new or to amend existing waiting restrictions in the following lengths of road (in this part of the notice DYL means waiting to be prohibited at all times by double yellow lines);

Lenham:

Ham Lane: western side, that length that extends from its junction with A20 Ashford Road to its junction with Old Ham Lane in a southerly direction.

Ham Lane: that length which extends from its junction with A20 Ashford Road on the eastern side in a southerly then in a south-easterly direction for a distance of 482 metres.

Ham Lane: Southern side, that length which extends from its junction with Old Ham Lane for distance of 177 metres in a south-easterly direction.

Loder Close: Both sides, for its entire length in a westerly direction and for a distance of 10 metres on its SOUTHERN SPUR.

Old Ham Lane: Both sides, from its junction with Ham Lane for a distance of 16 metres in a south-westerly direction.

Full details are contained in the Order, any Orders which will be amended by the Order, a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order and maps indicating the location and effect may be examined at the Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX and at the Maidstone Borough Council Offices, The Gateway, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

(HAM LANE, LENHAM, BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (7.5 TONNE WEIGHT RESTRICTION) ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

The Kent County Council, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter called the Act), and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:

7.5 Tonne Weight Restriction:

HAM LANE - That length which extends from its junction with the High Street to its junction with Ham Lane south/west length.

The general effect of the Weight Restriction Order would be to prohibit vehicles the maximum gross weight of which exceeds 7.5 Tonnes from using that length of carriageway as detailed in the Schedule of the Notice, except for loading and unloading.

Full details of the Order, together with the relevant plans and any Orders amended by the Order and a statement of reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Offices of Maidstone Borough Council Offices, The Gateway, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

WEAVERING STREET, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of cabling and jointing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Weavering Street, Maidstone, on or after 21 March 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Grovewood Drive to Grove Green Lane.

The alternative route is via Provender Way, Grovewood Drive.

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS

AZALEA DRIVE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a mobile crane operation, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Azalea Drive, on or after 10th March 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Azalea Drive and Station Approach.

The alternative route is via Station Approach, Godsel Road and Azalea Drive.

FOUR ELMS ROAD, EDENBRIDGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Four Elms Road, Edenbridge, on or after 24th March 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction of Five Fields Lane to the junction with Green Lane. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Green Lane, Ide Hill Road, Sundridge Road, Church Road, Main Road, Westerham Road, Brasted Road, Hosey Common Road, Spout Lane, Pootings Road, Beech Road, Five Fields Lane.

POUNDSBRIDGE, PENSHURST, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of new gas service to be installed , Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Poundsbridge, Penshurst, Sevenoaks, on or after 18th March 2013 for up to 10 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Poundsbridge Manor. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Poundsbridge Lane, Penshurst Road, Barden Road, Penhurst Road Speldhurst.

A225 RIVERHILL, WEALD, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of crash barrier works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A225 Riverhill, Weald, Sevenoaks, on or after 22nd March 2013 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Riverhill House to Morleys roundabout. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the south, north along the A21 Sevenoaks Bypass, east along A25 Westerham Road, Chevening, A25 Worships Hill, Riverhead, south along A224 Amherst Hill Riverhead, A224 Lonodn Road, Sevenoaks, A224 Tubbs Hill Sevenoaks, A224 London Road, Sevenoaks, then South along A225 High Street, Sevenoaks and A225 Tonbridge Road, Sevenoaks. The diversion for traffic approaching from the north is the same but reversed.

WHITE POST HILL FARNINGHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on White Post Hill Farningham, Sevenoaks on or after 13th March 2013 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between A225 Eynsford Road to the end of the cul de sac. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via A225 Eynsford Road, A20 Main Road/Gorse Hill/London Road, Botsom Lane, Maplescombe Lane.

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY

PARK FARM ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Park Farm Road, Folkestone, on or after 18 March 2013 for up to 6 nights, as shown below.

Park Farm Road will be closed between Churchill Avenue and Park Farm Close (including the roundabout at the junction with Retail Park)

18 - 23 March 2013 between 21:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night (22:00 hours to 05:00 hours at the Retail Park Roundabout

The alternative route for all through traffic is via A259 Churchill Avenue, A20 Cherry Garden Avenue, A259 Radnor Park Road and A2034 Cheriton Road.

TONTINE STREET, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable the safe placement of a mobile crane to remove a tower crane, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Tontine Street, Folkestone, on or after 10 March 2013, as shown below.

The closure is planned for Sunday 10 March 2013, between 07:00 hours and 18:00 hours.

If weather prevents the works going ahead on this date, they will be deferred until one of the following 2 Sundays, at the same times.

Tontine Street will be closed between the junctions with The Old High Street and Dover Road / Grace Hill.

The alternative route is via A260 The Tram Road (with suspension of one-way to enable this), Southern Way, Dover Road, Hill Road, Canterbury Road, Black Bull Road, A2033 Foord Road North, New Street, Bradstone Road and Dover Road.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Tontine Street will be suspended from the junction with The Old High Street to the point of closure and from the point of closure extending along the western spur of Tontine Street to the junction with Grace Hill, for access only.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of The Tram Road will be suspended from Harbour Street to the junction with Morrison Road (where it becomes 2-way).

The Orders preventing traffic turning left from Martello Road, Ryland Place, London Street and Elmstead Place into The Tram Road will be suspended.

Waiting will be prohibited in Tontine Street on the north east side, from a point in line with the boundary wall of numbers 32 -34 and 26 - 30 south eastwards to a point in line with the boundary walls of numbers 24 and 20 - 22.

Waiting will be prohibited in The Tram Road on the north west side, from the centre line of the junction with Elmstead Place south westwards for a distance of approximately 32 metres.

Both waiting restrictions take effect from 18:00 hours on the Saturday immediately preceding the works until 20:00 hours on the day of the works, and will apply for the corresponding times whichever weekend the works are carried out.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE

BRENLEY LANE, BOUGHTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway micro-surfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Brenley Lane, Boughton, on or after Sunday 24 March 2013 for up to 1 day, between 05:00 hours and 19:00 hours.

An additional closure required for 1 day, within 14 days from the completion of resurfacing, to allow for re-alignment of iron work in the carriageway.

The road will be closed between M2 Brenley Roundabout and the junction with Clockhouse Lane.

Diversion Routes:

Southbound - A2/M2 Roundabout, A2, Canterbury Road, Stockers Hill, Nine Ash Lane, South Street and Brenley Lane

Northbound - Brenley Lane, South Street, Nine Ash Lane, and A2

B2008 MINSTER ROAD, MINSTER, SHEPPEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2008 Minster Road, Minster-on-Sea, on or after 7 March 2013, as shown below.

Minster Road, Minster will be closed between Fleetwood Close and Harps Avenue, planned for 7, 8 & 11 March 2013, between 19:30 hours through until 05:00 hours each night

The alternative routes are

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Kent County Council

Eastbound via B2008 Minster Rd, Scrapsgate Road, Wards Hill Road, Queens Road, Baldwin Road, Chapel Street, Back Lane and B2008 Minster Road

Westbound via Waterloo Hill, Union Road, Wards Hill Road, Scrapsgate Road and B2008 Minster Road

THE BROADWAY, MINSTER will also be closed as part of these works, between the junctions with Minster Road and Saxon Avenue.

HIGHWAYS - THANET

ADDINGTON ROAD & VICTORIA ROAD, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Addington Road & Victoria Road, Margate, on or after 23 March 2013 for up to or until the works have been completed.

Please note that Addington Road and Victoria Road will not be closed at same time as each other

ADDINGTON ROAD, MARGATE will be closed between Addington Street and Victoria Road

Saturday 23 March 2013, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours

The alternative route is via Addington Street, Dane Road and Victoria Road

VICTORIA ROAD, MARGATE will be closed between Dane Road and High Street

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 March 2013, between 07:00 hours and 19:00 hours

The alternative route is via Dane Road, King Street, Hawley Street, Cecil Street, Churchfields and High Street.

Additional 2-day closures will be required for both roads, within 14 days from completion of the surfacing, to allow for re-alignment of covers, which if during school times, will be restricted to 09:00 hours to 15:00 hours.

The dates of the additional closures will be notified locally and signposted on site.

The One-way Traffic Orders will be suspended in respect of the following roads, to allow access

ST JOHN'S ROAD - between St John's Street and Victoria Road

COWPER ROAD - between Arnold Road and Victoria Road

CHURCH STREET - between Arnold Road and Victoria Road

CHARLOTTE PLACE/CHARLOTTE SQUARE - between St John's Street and Victoria Road

A299 ST NICHOLAS ROUNDABOUT, ST NICHOLAS AT WADE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A299 St Nicholas Roundabout, St Nicholas at Wade, on or after 22 March 2013 for up to 2 nights between 21:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

The roundabout will be closed in 2 phases, as shown below.

On 22 March 2013 the northern (coast-bound) half of the roundabout will be closed.

This means there will be no coast-bound access from the A299 Thanet Way to A28 to Margate or A299 towards Ramsgate

The full alternative A299 coast-bound route is via A299 Thanet Way, A291 Canterbury Road, Herne Bay Road, Sturry Hill, A28 Island Road, Staines Hill, Island Road, A253 Ramsgate Road, Canterbury Road, Monkton Roundabout, A299 Canterbury Road West, Hengist Way, Canterbury Road West, A256 Haine Road, New Haine Road, Margate Road, Ramsgate Road, College Road, Hartsdown Road, George V Road and A28 Canterbury Road.

POTTEN STREET will be closed at the junction with the roundabout, with a local diversion in place.

On 23 March 2013, the southern (Canterbury / London-bound) half of the roundabout will be closed.

This means there will be no access from the A28 or A299 from Thanet towards Canterbury and London.

The alternative route is via A28 Canterbury Road, B2052 George V Road, Hartsdown Road, Tivoli Road, Beatrice Road, Ramsgate Road, Margate Road, Haine Road, New Haine Road, A299 Canterbury Road West, A253 Sarre, A28 Island Road, Sturry Hill, Herne Bay Road, A291 Canterbury Road.

THANET ROAD, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER MARCH 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install street lighting, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Thanet Road, Broadstairs, on or after 18 March 2013 for up to 1 day, between 08:00 hours and midday.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Albion Street and Prospect Road.

The alternative route is via Albion Street, High Street, Prospect Place and Thanet Road.

HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A26 QUARRY HILL ROAD - TONBRIDGE) (PUFFIN CROSSING)

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, intends to install a Puffin crossing at the location described in the schedule below.

A plan showing the location of the proposed Puffin Crossing may be inspected during normal working hours Mondays to Fridays at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX or Kent County Council Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD.

SCHEDULE

Type of Pedestrian Crossing	Location
Puffin	A26 Quarry Hill Road, Tonbridge 40m South West of the junction with Brook Street

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS) AMENDMENT NO. 3 CONSOLIDATION ORDER 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which is to :-

1) Implement a 30MPH Speed Limit on Clare Lane from its junction with Mill Street to its junction with Winterfield Lane. 2) Implement a 30MPH Speed Limit on Winterfield Lane from its junction with Clare Lane to its junction with (A20)London Road. 3) Implement a 30MPH Speed Limit on Lucks Hill from its junction with Winterfield Lane for a distance of 190metres in a westerly direction.

A copy of the proposed Order, which comes into operation on 04/03/2013, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders..

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS) AMENDMENT NO. 4 CONSOLIDATION ORDER 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to :-

1) Implement a 40MPH Speed Limit on Lucks Hill from a point 52 metres east of its junction with Lavenders Road to a point 190 metres west of its junction with Winterfield

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highway Depot, Henwood Industrial Estate, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD

Any persons wishing to support the proposal, or to object to it should write to Benjamin Hilden, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than 25/03/2013

(VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO.4) ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1) and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby make the following Order:-

The effect of the Order will introduce 'Waiting Restrictions' Mon - Fri between 10.30am - 12.30pm on the following length of road:

Road	Side of Road	Location - Leybourne
Birling Road	East	From the northern kerbline of London Road, northwards for 10m
London Road (A20)	North	From the eastern kerbline of Birling Road, eastwards to the western edge of the inscribed circle of the Town Hill roundabout
London Road (A20)	South	Any part of the southern side of the road that may fall within the Parish of Leybourne between the Birling Road junction and the Town Hill roundabout.

		Location - West Malling
London Road (A20)	South	Any part of the southern side of the road that may fall within the Parish of West Malling from a point in line with the eastern kerbline of Birling Road, eastwards to a point 2m west of the inscribed circle of the Town Hill roundabout.

Full details are contained in the Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the Order and a statement of reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Offices, The Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, ME19 4LZ during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

THE HEATH, EAST MALLING, TONBRIDGE & MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new sewer connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Heath, East Malling, Tonbridge & Malling, on or after 18 March 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Wateringbury Road to Hilltop Farm.

The alternative route is via The Heath, Pikey Lane, Broadwater Road, Clare Lane, Mill Street, High Street, Chapel Street, Wateringbury Road.

HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS

FOXHOLE LANE, BRENCHLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of overhead cabling works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Foxhole Lane, Brenchley, on or after 18 March 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Chestnut Lane, B2160 Maidstone Road, Bramble Reed Lane.

LADHAM ROAD, GOUDHURST, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to cut back overhanging trees, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ladham Road, Goudhurst, Tunbridge Wells, on or after 18 March 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Ladham House.

The alternative route is via Jarvis Lane, B2084 Chequers Road.

HIGHWAYS - WEST KENT

VARIOUS ROADS, WEST KENT (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway patching and surface treatment works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after **18th March 2013** for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Each road indicated will need to be closed for prepatching and surfacing works (as per the schedule below). The roads in the schedule will need to be re-closed approximately 14 days after the original closure to carry out road sweeping, replacement of lines and to adjust manholes as required.(These dates will be advertised on information boards on each site, 14 days in advance of commencement).

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates. Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

GRAVESHAM

MEADOW ROAD, GRAVESEND - closed for its entire length from the junction with New House Lane.

12th April 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac.

THE LARCHES, HIGHAM - closed for its entire length from the junction with Hermitage Road.

24th April 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac.

HAVENGORE AVENUE, GRAVESEND - closed for its entire length from the junction with Lower Range Road.

25th April 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac.

DARNLEY STREET, GRAVESEND - Closed between A227 Wrotham Road and Darnley Road.

26th April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via A227 Wrotham Road, Stone Street, Clive Road and Darnley Road.

MAIDSTONE

ULCOMBE HILL/THE STREET, ULCOMBE - closed between Lenham Road and Lodge Gardens

18th to 20th March 2013 and 3rd April to 7th April 2013

Alternative route Lenham Road, Headcorn Road, Liverton Hill, Headcorn Road, Lenham Road, Eastwood Road, Pye Corner

HOPE STREET - closed between Sandling Road and Alexandra Street

ALEXANDRA STREET- closed between Lower Boxley Road and Randall Street

SCOTT STREET - closed between Hope Street and Randall Street

25th March 2013 for 1 week and 22nd April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Sandling Road, Staceys Street, Lower Boxley Road, Fisher Street, Randall Street

STREETFIELD, ULCOMBE - closed between The Street and end of cul-de sac

3rd April 2012 for 1 day

WARREN STREET - closed between Payden Street and The Harrow Public House

8th April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route is via Waterditch Lane, Coldharbour Lane, Bunce Court Road

HOSPITAL ROAD, HOLLINGBOURNE - closed between A20 Ashford Road and Greenway Court Road

9th April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via A20 Ashford Road, Eyhorne Street and Greenway Court Road

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

THORNHILL PLACE, MAIDSTONE - Closed between Fisher Street and John Street

19 April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route - North bound via Fisher Street, Peel Street and John Street. South bound via John Street, Hardy Street and Fisher Street.

ASPIAN DRIVE, COXHEATH - Closed for it's entire length from the junction with Park Way.

22 to 23 April 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac.

EGREMONT ROAD, BEARSTED - Cul-de-sac section to school closed for it's entire length from the junction with Egremont Road.

6 April 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac.

SEVENOAKS

SCHOOL LANE, SEAL - closed whole length

8th April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via A25 Seal Road, A225 Otford Road/Sevenoaks Road, Station Road, Pilgrims Way and Childsbridge Lane

TONBRIDGE & MALLING

PLAXDALE GREEN ROAD & LABOUR IN VAIN ROAD, STANSTED - closed between A20 London Road and Parsons Lane

2 April 2013 for 4 days and 18 April 2013 for 3 days

Alternative route via A20 London Road, Ash Lane, Hatham Green Lane and Parsons Lane

BRADBOURNE LANE, DITTON - Closed between A20 London Road and St Peters Road

6 April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via A20 London Road, New Road and St Peters Road

ROCHESTER ROAD, WOULDHAM - closed between Knowle Road and Scarborough House

10th April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative Route via Pilgrims Way, Burham Road, Borstal Street, Priestfields, B2097 Maidstone Road/Rochester Road, A229 Kits Coty slip road, Rochester Road, Pilgrims Way and Rochester Road

A227 Western Road, Borough Green - closed between A25 Sevenoaks and High Street

21st April 2013 for 1 day

Alternative Route via A25 Sevenoaks and High Street

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

MEADOW ROAD, SOUTHBOROUGH - closed between A26 London Road and Prospect Road

8th April 2013 for 1 week and 25 April 2013 for 2 days

Alternative route A26 London Road, Springfield Road and Prospect Road

FERNDALE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS- closed between Springhead to Hilbert Road

16th April 2013 for 2 days

Alternative route via Sandrock Road, Pembury Road and Sandhurst Road

MOUNT PLEASANT, PADDOCK WOOD - closed between Maidstone Road and Cogate Road

17th April 2013 for 2 days

Alternative route via Maidstone Road and Allington Road and Maidstone Road, Ringden Avenue and Cogate Road

OATFIELD DRIVE, CRANBROOK - closed for whole length

19th April 2013 to 23rd April (excluding the weekend)

Alternative route via A229 Angley Road, High Street and Carriers Road.

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 3rd March 2013**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

Expansion of Otford Primary School (Community)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Otford Primary School, High Street, Otford, Kent, TN14 5PG from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge Otford Primary School by 10 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 350 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 341. The current admission number for the school is 50 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 60 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 420 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning & Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

PUBLIC NOTICE

BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL (AIDED) AS ADMISSION AUTHORITY

EXPANSION OF ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL (AIDED)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the Governing Body of St Botolph's Church of England Primary School intends to make a prescribed alteration to St Botolph's Church of England Primary School (Aided), Dover Road, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9PL from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge St Botolph's Church of England Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 210 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 210. The current admission number for the school is 30 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 60 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 420 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Clerk to the Governors, c/o St Botolph's Church of England Primary School, Dover Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent DA11 9PL or from the school's website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Clerk to the Governors, c/o St Botolph's Church of England Primary School, Dover Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent DA11 9PL.

Chair of Governors
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

Public Notice

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

Expansion of Sevenoaks Primary School (Community)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Sevenoaks Primary School (Community), Bradbourne Park Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3LB from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge Sevenoaks Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 90 (3FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 450 and the proposed capacity will be 630. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 456. The current admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 90 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 630 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning & Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

PUBLIC NOTICE

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXPANSION OF ST JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL (VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to St James' Church of England Junior School (Voluntary Controlled), Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 3PR from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge St James' Church of England Junior School by 22 Year 3 places taking their PAN to 90 (3FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 272 and the proposed capacity will be 360. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 273. The current admission number for the school is 68 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

Successive Year 3 intakes will offer 90 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 360 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning & Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

PUBLIC NOTICE

BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF ST JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND INFANT SCHOOL (AIDED) AS ADMISSION AUTHORITY

EXPANSION OF ST JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND INFANT SCHOOL (AIDED)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the Governing Body of St James' Church of England Infant School intends to make a prescribed alteration to St James' Church of England Infant School (Aided), Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 3PR from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge St James' Church of England Infant School by 20 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 90 (3FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 250 and the proposed capacity will be 270. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 269. The current admission number for the school is 70 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 90 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 270 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Clerk to the Governors, c/o St James' Church of England Infant School, Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 3PR or from the school's website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Clerk to the Governors, c/o St James' Church of England Infant School, Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 3PR.

Chair of Governors
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

Public Notice

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

Expansion of Maypole Primary School (Community)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Maypole Primary School, Franklin Road, Dartford, Kent, DA2 7UZ from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge Maypole Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current official capacity of the school is 210 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 287. The current admission number for the school is 30 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 60 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 420 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning & Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013



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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

Expansion of Lady Boswell's Church of England Primary School (Aided)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Lady Boswell's Church of England Primary School (Aided), Plymouth Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3RW from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge Lady Boswell's Church of England Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 210 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 216. The current admission number for the school is 30 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 60 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 420 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning and Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

PUBLIC NOTICE

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXPANSION OF ST MARK'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL (VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to St Mark's Church of England Primary School (Voluntary Controlled), Ramslye Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8LN from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge St Mark's Church of England Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 60 (2FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 210 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 169. The current admission number for the school is 30 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 60 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 420 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning & Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

PUBLIC NOTICE

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL AS LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXPANSION OF STONE ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL (VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED)

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kent County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Stone St Mary's Church of England Primary School (Voluntary Controlled), Hayes Road, Horns Cross, Greenhithe, Kent, DA9 9EF from 01 September 2013.

It is proposed to enlarge Stone St Mary's Church of England Primary School by 30 Reception Year places taking their PAN to 90 (3FE) for the September 2013 intake.

The current capacity of the school is 420 and the proposed capacity will be 630. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 376. The current admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

Successive Reception year intakes will offer 90 places each year and the school will eventually have a total capacity of 630 pupils.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Education Cabinet Committee, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ, or from the KCC website.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Simon Webb, Area Education Officer, Green Zone, Commercial Buildings, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director,
Education Learning & Skills
Kent County Council
Publication Date: 3rd March 2013

MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Kennington, Ulley Road, Ashford**
Applicant: **Stephen Goundry**
Name of Premises: **Brick House Farm, High Halden**
Applicant: **Robert Cowan**

Plans of the premises may be inspected upon request, during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made by Mr Ian Mills, Haven Cottage, Pinesfield Lane, Trottiscliffe to Kent County Council, to grant an approval for a ceremony at this premise.

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected upon request, during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper.

Objections should be sent to the following address

Cath Anley, Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre, James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ

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PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF SWALE

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZS34

IN THE PARISH OF LEYSDOWN

PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZS34
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath ZS34, between The Promenade and the Central Beach Park slipway to the beach at NGR TR031 708 from the 18th March 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before the end of June 2013.

The path will be closed because works to repair the sea wall are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michael Ellis on 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_r

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LOCAL INQUIRY
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 SECTION 53

Notice is hereby given that an Inspector will be appointed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to determine

Kent County Council
Map Sheet 064 (TQ76SW)
Footpath MR602 at Snodland
Definitive Map Modification Order 2011

and will attend at:

The Devonshire Rooms, Waghorn Road, Snodland, ME6 5BQ

On Friday 5 April 2013 at 10.00am

To hold a public local inquiry into the Order

The effect of the Order, if confirmed without modifications, will be to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Footpath (MR602) with a width of 2 metres which commences on Bingley Close at the entrance to the garages at the rear of properties on Bingley Close at NGR TQ 7004 6183 (Point A), running in a north north-easterly direction for 31 metres and then turns in an east south-easterly direction for 38 metres to join with Birling Road at NGR TQ 7009 6185 (Point B). Between Point A and B on the Order Plan)

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

Any person wishing to view the statements of case and other documents relating to this Order may do so by appointment at Kent County Council, Countryside Access Team, Public Rights of Way, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX from Monday-Friday between 10am-4pm. Please telephone Mr Chris Wade on 01622 221568 to make an appointment.

Planning Inspectorate Reference: FPS/W2275/7/70

Contact point at the Planning Inspectorate: Clive Richards, The Planning Inspectorate, Rights of Way Section, Room 3/25, Hawk Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN.

Tel: 0303 444 5502
Email: clive.richards@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX **Dated: 3rd March 2013**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

To advertise in this section
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TERMS & CONDITIONS

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CRICKET

Coles must heed tour warning and not succumb to cricket's 'dark side'

As news of Tom Maynard's drug-taking sinks in, **Fred Atkins** talks to former Kiwi all-rounder Lou Vincent, who warns of sport's off-field dangers

IN A week when the inquest into Tom Maynard's death gave a horrific insight into the temptations facing young cricketers, Kent's fast bowler Matt Coles probably felt like keeping a low profile after his expulsion from the England Lions' tour to Australia.

Maynard's death on a London railway line, hours after Surrey lost to Kent at The Oval last August, was officially recorded as an accident, but the revelations of Maynard's drug use sent shockwaves through the county circuit.

The Professional Cricketers' Association has since declared its support for out-of-competition drug-testing and programmes are in place warning players of the dangers of substance abuse.

In this context, Coles's alleged crimes need to be put into perspective.

Persistent late-night drinking was cited as the reason for his ejection, alongside team-mate Ben Stokes. The final straw, according to a source, was when Coles didn't return to the team hotel until 4am, having already been handed a written warning by tour management for an earlier indiscretion.

Coles was reportedly the less culpable of the pair, with a separate source suggesting he was "easily led", but after issuing a terse statement on the subject, in which they denounced the duo's "unprofessional conduct", neither the England and Wales Cricket Board nor Kent were keen to go into the subject any further this week.

But his ejection from the tour showed that it will take more than a few seminars to change a drinking culture that has been ingrained in the sport since its inception.

While alcohol isn't always a negative influence, according to the New Zealand all-rounder Lou Vincent, who will be playing for Kent-based Lashings World XI this summer, the dangers are obvious.

He told KoS: "Alcohol is traditionally a big part of cricket. I learnt most of my cricket knowledge staying in the changing room having a beer with team-mates and opposition.

"That's the positive side."

However, Vincent, who campaigns about the dangers of depression, also warned that the demands of the fixture list can affect a player's refuelling habits.

"The dark side to alcohol and cricket is we tend to become binge drinkers," he said.

"We're waiting for the one day off every few weeks and then hitting the bottle hard for one night to either celebrate good performances or to drown the sorrows."

Vincent argues that the worst thing any cricketer can do is "pretend there's nothing that can't be fixed by the medication of alcohol, drugs and a kebab".

He said: "Learning to fail in a healthy way is something we need to become better at."

If Coles learns his lesson, there is no reason he shouldn't have a long and successful career.

And he follows in the footsteps of many others – some of whom bounced back and some of whom fell victim of excess (see box right).



Picture: ADY KERRY

HEAD DOWN: Kent's Matt Coles was sent home last week from the England Lions' tour of Australia

THOSE FALLEN HEROES

ANDREW FLINTOFF

The hero of the 2005 Ashes-winning team, and arguably English cricket's best-known name, Andrew Flintoff was stripped of being England vice-captain and dropped from a game during the 2007 Cricket World Cup after going on a drinking spree.

He found himself in hot water after falling off a pedalo and having to be rescued on a night out during the tournament in the Carribean.

He admitted he was "ashamed" as a result.

GRAEME SWANN

Swann's early career reads like an instruction manual of how a young cricketer shouldn't behave; from the moment he called Rodney Marsh an "ignorant c***" to his repeated run-ins with Duncan Fletcher after missing a tour bus because he was hung over.

He is now arguably the world's leading spinner.

PAUL SMITH

Smith was dubbed "cricket's first bimbo" by his Warwickshire captain Dermot Reeve, but after starring for the Bears in their mid-90s heyday he became addicted to drugs.

Kent fans who remember Smith's pivotal role in a NatWest semi-final in 1994 might be entitled to ask "What was he on?", but the substances he used began to impair rather than enhance his performances.

He once went out to face Malcolm Marshall at Bournemouth while drunk.

Marshall said: "Don't worry, Smitty boy, this won't take long."

It didn't. Smith was out within moments and walked the wrong way to the pavilion.

His career was over at 30.

ED GIDDINS

The Sussex bowler had a career most generously described as checkered.

He recovered from a ban for cocaine to write his name on the honours board at Lord's with 5-15 v Zimbabwe.

Subsequently banned again for betting his own side would lose, Giddins became addicted to online gambling but has since reinvented himself as a broadcaster and after-dinner speaker.

SPORTS SHORTS

ATHLETICS

McDermot runs down eight-time champion

DEIRDRE McDermot, of Tonbridge Athletic Club, pulled off an upset on Sunday when she won the Tunbridge Wells half-marathon, beating eight-time champion Tina Oldershaw by 38 seconds.

Oldershaw, from Paddock Wood AC, led in the early stages but was eventually overhauled by McDermot, who finished in 1:21.58.

In the men's race, favourite Tom Payn beat his closest rivals by almost three minutes. In cold conditions he recorded an impressive 1:07.11, leaving Paul Martelletti to to take second place.

Sittingbourne Striders' Anthony Jackson, who took third place, was the first Kent runner.

It was the 30th edition of the race and 1,897 runners completed the undulating course.

MOTORSPORT

Camier off the pace in Aussie season-opener

ASHFORD'S Leon Camier had a difficult start to the World Superbike season last weekend when he finished ninth in both races on Phillip Island, Australia.

Camier made a poor start to race one but fought his way up from 13th.

In the second race he was forced off the track and had to fight his way through the field after rejoining in last place.

"I got a better start in race two and tried to make some places up early on," said Camier.

"But as I tried to go round the outside coming into a corner there was a big crash in front of me and I got taken out and on to the grass, so that was really the end of the race for me."

RUGBY

Promotion is secured with five games to go

MAIDSTONE Rugby Club clinched promotion with five fixtures to spare by beating Pulborough 37-17 on Saturday.

The county-town side will return to London 2 South next season after their bonus-point win in Sussex guaranteed them at least second place.

The victory maintained Maidstone's 100 per cent record this season, but a struggling Pulborough side gave the leaders one of their toughest games of the campaign.

Maidstone were 24-3 ahead at the interval, but the hosts became the first side to score a try against Maidstone since December early in the second half. The visitors restored their cushion before Pulborough managed a consolation try.

FOOTBALL

Gills sign German as McDonald goes home

GILLINGHAM have signed Antonio German on a one-month loan deal from Brentford.

German, a 21-year-old attacker, went straight into the squad for Tuesday night's game with Oxford United, coming on as a substitute in the 1-0 home defeat.

Gills boss Martin Allen signed the former QPR player after Cody McDonald was recalled by his parent club Coventry City.

The Sky Blues recalled McDonald, who scored four goals in seven games while at the Gills, following the departure of their manager Mark Robins to Huddersfield.

This gives former Dover stricker Adam Birchall the chance to stake a claim on a starting place.

RUGBY

Injury-time collapse that gave Peacock's Gills away-day blues

Gillingham's record-breaking away form this season is a reminder of one of the club's golden eras. **Fred Atkins** spoke to ex-boss Keith Peacock about his memories of the 1984-85 side, whose record has been broken...

WHEN Gillingham beat Chesterfield 1-0 last Saturday to record their 11th away win of the season, it broke a record that dated back 28 years to a fondly-remembered era of Keith Peacock and Tony Cascarino.

The 1-0 defeat at home to Oxford United on Tuesday night might serve as an uncomfortable reminder to fans with long memories that Gillingham's indifferent home form arguably cost them promotion that season, but it's still a time that Peacock himself remembers fondly.

Throughout the mid-80s Gillingham were always in the hunt for promotion and the 1984-85 season saw them finish fourth, the closest they had ever been to reaching the then-second division.

Peacock admitted the loss of future Manchester United star Steve Bruce, sold to Norwich, had left him with a big hole to fill, but he was delighted with the way the squad responded.

"Because we'd lost Brucie we were always going to be in for a tough year, but Tony Cascarino was doing really well and we felt confident when we went away," he said.

"We were a good footballing side. I think we were excellent at home, but that season we got a record number of away wins. When you're away from home you need to be solid, but you've also got to have that feeling you can score a goal."

In the first month of the season, Peacock's side did precisely that, beating Orient, then Wigan and Swansea.

They subsequently crashed 5-2 at Bradford and 7-1 at York before recovering to win 2-1 at Bolton, but for Peacock the outstanding performance came in the FA Cup at Layer Road, where they trounced Colchester 5-0 in the second round.

"You think you must have a special side to be able to do that," Peacock said.

"Cascarino and [Dave] Shearer were a very potent strike force and we also had two exciting wingers in [Terry] Cochrane and Martin Robinson, so you had a forward line who could all get goals and Dave Mehmet coming in from midfield."

But the cup run eventually came to an end with a 3-2 defeat against top-flight Ipswich Town in the fourth round and Peacock's overstretched squad struggled during the run-in. Key points were dropped at home in defeats to Bristol City and Bolton and the promotion dream finally ended at Bristol Rovers' old Eastville ground on May 7.

Gillingham fell behind after just seven minutes but led 2-1 going into injury time, only to concede twice and lose 3-2.

"I think I must have blanked that from my mind," Peacock joked.

Two years before the inception of the play-offs the loss meant Gillingham could no longer reach the top three and although victories in their last three games saw them finish fourth, a high watermark for the club at that point, the whole era left a feeling of what might have been, as Peacock reflected.

"We were always in that top five and if we'd had that little bit of extra finance who knows what would have happened?"

Picture: ADY KERRY



ALL SMILES: Cody McDonald celebrates his winning goal against Chesterfield that broke the record

Football roots grounded firmly in South East

Keith Peacock will forever be linked with football in the south-east of England.

Having played his entire professional career for Charlton Athletic – making more than 500 Football League appearances in a career that stretched from 1962-79 – he followed that up by taking over the management hot-seat at Priestfield.

He served as manager between 1981-87 before taking over at Maidstone United during their brief foray in the Football League between 1989-91.

He then returned to The Valley to serve as long-time assistant to Alan Curbishley during Charlton's Premiership heyday.

When Curbishley left in 2006, Peacock followed him out before joining West Ham United, first as a scout then assistant manager under both Alan Pardew and Curbishley.

He continues to maintain close links with the Championship club.

FOOTBALL

Promotion rivals confirm £1,000 bonus if Stones go up

MAIDSTONE United director Bill Williams has confirmed his club would have to pay Folkestone Invicta a £1,000 bonus fee if the Stones won promotion this season.

But he denied any suggestion of a potential conflict of interest behind the deal, which was struck when Invicta sold Stuart King to Maidstone for £5,000 earlier this season.

With both teams in the hunt for promotion from Ryman 1 South, a scenario could emerge where Folkestone play Maidstone in a play-off final, knowing defeat would trigger the bonus.

Williams confirmed that the clause existed after it was reported on Folkestone's website but rubbished suggestions it would impact on the game.



CONFLICTING? Maidstone struck the deal with Folkestone when they bought Stuart King (centre)

"Anyone who'd argue that would have to be some sort of fool," said.

"When the deal was struck, that wasn't even thought about. They'd be going full out and we'd be going full out. It wouldn't even come into the thought pattern. Both teams want to be promoted – nothing else comes into it."

King has scored 19 league goals so far this season, although only four of them have come since he moved to the Gallagher Stadium in November and his form has been hampered by illness and injury.

However, he produced a moment of brilliance to set up Maidstone's decisive second goal for Tim Olorunda in the 3-1 win at Herne Bay on Saturday, and Williams is in no doubt as to King's value.

"I thought it was a good deal and it'll prove to be a very good deal when he comes good," he said. "He's a terrific player."

Gills team of the Century

This season marks the 100th anniversary of the Gills being known as Gillingham, having originally being founded as New Brompton. We are celebrating those we think deserve a place in the team of the century.

DICK TYDEMAN



Date of birth: May 26, 1951
Gills stats: 419 appearances, 17 goals
Clubs: Gillingham, Charlton Athletic, Peterborough Utd

HE may not have been good in the air or in the tackle, but central midfielder Dick Tydeman's passing ability was second to none.

Born in Chatham, the classy midfielder came through the Gills ranks under the club's legendary manager Bill 'Buster' Collins and made 419 appearances in two spells at Priestfield.

He joined in 1967 and played for the reserves aged 15 before eventually making his debut at the age of 18 in a 3-2 defeat to Torquay United.

Tydeman almost gave up the game in 1971 to become a teacher, but then-boss Andy Nelson convinced him to stay.

It proved a wise move for both parties as Tydeman was voted player of the year for the 1972/73 campaign and was an ever-present the following season as the Gills won promotion from Division Four.

He was also a keen cricketer and in 1976 acted as an emergency 12th man for Kent in their Championship fixture against Northamptonshire at Maidstone.

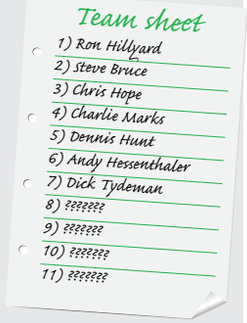
His first spell with the Gills ended in December of that year when Nelson, who was now boss at Charlton Athletic, signed him for a club record fee of £70,000.

He made 158 appearances and scored seven goals at The Valley before Keith Peacock brought him back to Priestfield for £42,000 in 1981; he was named in the Third Division team of the season. His last Gills appearance came in 1983 as a sub in a 4-0 Milk Cup defeat by Chelsea.

In October that year he joined Peterborough United before returning to Kent to play for Chatham Town, Dover Athletic, Bromley and Canterbury City.

After retiring from football he became a taxi-driver.

■ **So, do you agree?** Send in your opinions on our choice or who you think would have been a better option. Email **greg.miles@archant.co.uk** or write to **Sport, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth TN25 6SR**



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